FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 MARCH 1984

Sudan

President Ja'far Numayri, in a 17 March speech reported by SUNA, held Libya responsible for the "abortive and stupid" air raid on the Sudanese radio station at Omdurman the previous day, asserting that the attack was carried out by a TU-22 bomber from Libya's airbase at Al-Kufrah. In response to the attack, Sudan and Egypt began implementing their defense agreement and deployed "joint defense forces" to protect strategic objectives in Sudan, Numayri disclosed.

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak condemned the raid as "an act of madness" and swiftly dispatched Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah and Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Usamah al-Baz to Khartoum to confer with the Sudanese leaders, according to reports by MENA. After delivering a message to Numayri, Abu Ghazalah declared that Egypt will take whatever steps are necessary to defend Sudan against any aggression, MENA reported. The Sudanese chief of staff subsequently flew to Cairo for talks with Egyptian military officials while an Egyptian delegation arrived in Khartoum to meet with senior Sudanese officers at their military headquarters, MENA noted. Commenting on the joint military measures, Egypt's *AL-AHRAM* said the two countries will take decisive action to deter any aggressor and punish any new aggressive act against Sudan, according to Cairo radio.

Among expressions of support for Sudan, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat denounced the air attack during a visit to Khartoum while an official Saudi source expressed the Kingdom's "indignation" over the incident, Omdurman and Riyadh radios reported respectively. In Khartoum, an officially organized mass rally protested the air raid and the foreign minister sent urgent messages to the United Nations, the Arab League, the OAU, and the ICO, explaining the "treacherous Libyan aggression" and linking the incident with previous Libyan "plots" against Sudan, SUNA noted.

Libya categorically denied responsibility for the air raid in an official statement carried by JANA on 17 March. Asserting that current events in Sudan are the result of a "popular revolution" which has support among the Sudanese Armed Forces, it said the air raid was the action of "revolutionary elements in the Sudanese Air Force." The Libyan statement, which was issued by the Popular Committee of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison, challenged President Numayri to provide proof of his allegations and wondered why no attempt was made to intercept and down the intruder if its course was being followed and its identity was known. The Committee for Foreign Liaison also summoned Arab and African ambassadors in Tripoli to explain Libya's view that Numayri's allegations are designed to give "imperialist" countries a pretext to intervene and are part of a U.S. "plot" against Libya, Tripoli radio reported. Earlier, Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio claimed that a Sudanese opposition group in London had "confirmed" that the raid was carried out by rebel elements in the Sudanese Air Force. Meanwhile, an Ethiopian official spokesman asserted that "revolutionary Ethiopia knew nothing whatsoever about the alleged bombing of Omdurman," according to Addis Ababa radio.

Lebanon

The National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne continued over the weekend with discussion at the main session on 18 March focusing on the opposition's demand for the abolition of political sectarianism, Beirut radio reported. The conferees approved proposals for administrative decentralization within the framework of political centralization, the radio said, and they earlier decided to divide parliamentary seats equally between Christian and Muslim deputies. The conference adjourned its evening session on 18 March in order to hold peripheral bilateral consultations in preparation for the 19 March session, the radio noted.

As for the security situation in Beirut, 15 people were killed and 45 others were injured as fierce clashes erupted across the contact lines on 17 March, Beirut radio reported. Lebanese press reports cited by the radio asserted that France has agreed to use its troops in Beirut to identify cease-fire violators subject to the approval of Syria and the opposing Lebanese sides. Earlier, an Amal Movement official affirmed his organization's willingness to release detainees if the Christian side agrees to do likewise, according to the radio. Meanwhile, security sources cited by Voice of Lebanon radio said contacts were under way for the release of kidnapped U.S. diplomat William Buckley who is being held outside Beirut.

Commenting on Israel's security requirements in southern Lebanon, a senior Israeli official stated that his government will not agree to UNIFIL's becoming part of the security arrangements and that Israel is seeking to protect its northern border, Jerusalem radio reported. Earlier, in a Radio Monte Carlo interview, President Amin al-Jumayyil stressed his intention to adopt security arrangements in the south,using an expanded UN force along with the Lebanese Army, "which we are currently purging."

Two more Israeli soldiers were injured in recent action in Lebanon, according to ITIM and IDF radio reports. One was wounded when his patrol was ambushed near Sidon while the other was slightly hurt when IDF command vehicles came under fire in the Al-Biqa' valley. Meanwhile, in a statement reported by Jerusalem radio, the IDF spokesman said Israel has no knowledge of a new Soviet-made radar station being built near Mount Sannin. The spokesman's comment followed a *HA'ARETZ* story that "intelligence sources" in London have reported the establishment of a new type of radar station surrounded by Syrian SAM batteries.

Iran-Iraq War

According to information available to the Iraqi military command, Iran is planning to launch a new offensive against Iraq in a "desperate attempt to infiltrate our international borders," a spokesman for the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command announced in a statement carried by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio on 17 March. The spokesman warned that not only would Iraqi forces strike at Iranian troops and "tear them limb from limb," but they would also strike at "defined targets deep inside" Iranian territory.

Israel also received a warning from Iraq over the weekend via an Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman's statement to INA. The spokesman warned the "Zionist entity" against any attempt to strike at the Iraqi chemical fertilizer plant west of Baghdad as it did against the Iraqi nuclear reactor in 1981. Any "adventure" of this kind will not pass without "an appropriate response," the spokesman emphasized. He also warned against "any party" providing help to the Iranian Air Force in carrying out a "criminal act" against Iraqi economic installations, Baghdad radio added.

Meanwhile, the commander of the Iraqi III Army Corps said that he is ready to "use all means, including chemical weapons," to defeat the Iranian forces, Radio Monte Carlo reported. He had not, however, as yet received orders from Baghdad to use such weapons, he stressed. Nevertheless, Iran claimed that over 460 Iranian combatants were injured by Iraqi chemical weapons in the Khaybar operational sector on 17 March. This use of "microbic and nerve gases" brought the total number of Iranian soldiers injured by chemical attacks to in excess of 2,200, IRNA added.

In other military developments over the weekend, Iranian forces continued to consolidate captured positions in the Khaybar operational sector, according to an Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio on 17 March. Some 500 Iraqi troops were killed or wounded when a counterattack launched in the Talayah region northeast of Basra was "severely crushed" by waiting Iranian units, IRNA and Tehran radio announced. On the other hand, an Iraqi military communique carried by Baghdad radio on 17 March claimed that Iraqi soldiers successfully destroyed an attacking Iranian force east of Basra, leaving more than 1,000 Iranians dead and large numbers wounded.

PLO Affairs

Yasir 'Arafat held meetings with Sudanese President Numayri and Egyptian envoy Usamah al-Baz during his visit to Khartoum at the weekend, MENA reported. Earlier, 'Arafat announced that the recent meetings of the PLO's Higher Military Council in San'a' dealt with ways of "escalating armed struggle inside the occupied homeland and southern Lebanon against the Zionist occupation forces," according to Baghdad Voice of PLO radio.

In Damascus, the PFLP-General Command denounced Jordanian official measures "in cooperation with 'Arafat and his clique" against Palestinian activists known for their opposition to "capitulatory" plans. The General Command statement, which was reported by SANA, warned the Jordanian authorities that if they do not release Mustafa Khamis, one of the front's members, it will reply to Jordan's "fascist" methods with appropriate means.

Syria

Jordanian King Husayn's recent criticisms of U.S. Middle East policy are "not enough" although they contain "some objectivity" in assessing U.S. policy toward the Arabs, Damascus radio asserted in a 17 March commentary. Calling on those Arab rulers who have "erred" to end their dealings with "U.S.-Israeli capitulation plans," the radio said Jordan should take practical steps to turn words into deeds while Egypt should cancel everything that has resulted from the Camp David accords.

Arab-U.S. Relations

Moroccan King Hassan II, in his current capacity as chairman of the 12th Arab summit conference, the 4th Islamic summit, and the Jerusalem Committee has sent a message to President Reagan, urging the United States not to transfer its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, MAP reported. The message, carried by the Moroccan agency, expressed hope that draft legislation in this regard now before Congress will be fought and rejected.

Iraqi-Soviet Relations

The Iraqi-USSR committee for economic, technical, and scientific cooperation completed its session in Baghdad with the signing of the minutes, a new economic agreement, and a protocol on increasing trade and commodity exchanges, INA reported. CPSU Central Committee member Yakov Ryabov, leader of the Soviet delegation, expressed his satisfaction with the "positive results" achieved at the session, INA added.

Tunisia

A presidential statement to the House of Representatives, delivered by the prime minister and broadcast by Tunis radio, said the committee of inquiry into the recent riots "confirmed the intention by the police command to paralyze the activity of the police," which was consequently unable to protect people and property. Responsibility for this rests primarily with the former interior minister who "intentionally embarked on misleading us" and who put his own interests before those of the state, thereby committing treason. The statement also noted that 84 people were killed and 938 were injured in the disturbances.

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DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 054 *19 March 1984*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

'Arafat Chairs Military Council Meetings in San'a' *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
Confers With Iraqi Ambassador *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
Meetings End *[WAKH]* ..... A 1
'Arafat Leaves San'a' 17 Mar *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
Khalil al-Wazir Meets With Jordanian Officials *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Saudi Defense Minister Arrives in Manama ..... C 1
Visits Causeway Site ..... C 1
Leaves Manama for Riyadh ..... C 1

KUWAIT

Council of Ministers Denounces Omdurman Bombing ..... C 1
ARAB TIMES Backs Husayn's Views on U.S. Ties *[17 Mar]* ..... C 1
Crown Prince Views Internal Security, Other Issues *[AL-WATAN 18 Mar]* ..... C 1

OMAN

Deputy Premier on Navy's Role in Hormuz ..... C 2

QATAR

Foreign Ministry Denounces Raid on Sudan ..... C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Government Condemns Air Raid on Omdurman ..... C 2
Prince Sultan Returns From Bahrain Visit ..... C 3
Comments on Visit ..... C 3
Prince Sa'ud Receives Danish Foreign Minister ..... C 3

UAE

President Receives Phone Call From Numayri ..... C 3
AL-BAYAN on U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem *[18 Mar]* ..... C 3

YAR

PLO's 'Arafat Issues Statement, Departs 17 Mar ..... C 3
Standing Committee Concludes Sixth Session ..... C 4
Final Statement Issued ..... C 4

EGYPT

Raid on Omdurman Condemned, Support Offered ..... D 1
Foreign Ministry Statement ..... D 1

Sudan's Numayri Briefs Mubarak ..... D 1
Mubarak Receives Abu Ghazalah ..... D 1
Mubarak Calls Raid 'Madness' ..... D 1
Sudanese Chief of Staff Arrives ..... D 1
Al-Baz Leaves for Khartoum ..... D 2
Mubarak Meets With Advisers ..... D 2
Abu Ghazalah Sent to Khartoum ..... D 2
Egypt Monitoring Western Borders ..... D 2
Deterrence Measures Listed ..... D 2
Security for Sudan Supported ..... D 3
Al-Qadhdhafi Blamed for Raid ..... D 3

IRAQ

Commander Reported Ready To Use Chemical Weapons *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... E 1
Israel Warned Against Attacking Fertilizer Plant ..... E 1
Commander on Anticipated Iranian Offensive ..... E 1
Dailies Comment on Anticipated Iranian Offensive ..... E 1
Spokesman Warns of New Offensive, Vows Revenge ..... E 2
Military Commander on Iraq's Ability To Triumph ..... E 2
Armed Forces General Command Issues Communiques ..... E 2
No 1,406 — 16 March ..... E 2
No 1,407 — 17 March ..... E 3
No 1,408 — 18 March ..... E 3
Ramadan Addresses Popular Army Fighters ..... E 4
Joint Minutes, Agreements Signed With USSR ..... E 4
USSR Cables President on Agreement Anniversary ..... E 4
INA Cites TASS on U.S. 'Allegations' ..... E 4

JORDAN

Parliament Committee Supports Husayn Comments ..... F 1
Commentary Praises Remarks ..... F 1
AD-DUSTUR Editorial *17 Mar* ..... F 1
Jordan Views U.S. Criticism of Husayn Interview ..... F 2
U.S. Credibility Lost *Jordan Times 18 Mar* ..... F 2
U.S. Distorts Facts *AR'RAY 17 Mar* ..... F 2
U.S. Comment 'Surprising' *SAWT ASH-SHA'B 17 Mar* ..... F 3
'Reality' of U.S. Stance Shown ..... F 3
Foreign Minister Views Reagan Plan, Arab Issues *ASH-SHARQ AL-ASWAT 16 Mar* ..... F 4
UN's Brian Urquhart Meets With Top Officials ..... F 4
Received by Al-Masri ..... F 4
Meets King Husayn ..... F 5

LEBANON

Reportage on Kidnapped U.S. Diplomat Buckley ..... G 1
Search Continues *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... G 1
U.S. Spokesman Cited ..... G 1
Responsibility for Kidnapping Determined *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 1
Reportage on National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne ..... G 1
16 Mar: Agreement on Reforms ..... G 1
Further on Reforms ..... G 1
Al-Jumayyil Phones King Fahd ..... G 2
Points of Contention 17 Mar *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 2
Hamadah Discusses PSP Approach *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 2
Differences Cause Session Delay *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 2
More on Differences *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 3
Beirut on Reason For Delay ..... G 3
Al-Jumayil Meets Khaddam *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 3
17 March Evening Session ..... G 3

Understanding on Main Stumbling Blocks *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 4
Sham'un: No Decisions Reached ..... G 4
Damascus on Khaddam-al-Jumayyil Meeting ..... G 4
Al-Jumayyil Submits Working Paper *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 4
18 March Morning Session *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 5
More on Morning Session *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 5
Details of Session ..... G 5
Morning Session Ends *[Voice of Arab Lebanon]* ..... G 6
Sham'un Says Progress Made ..... G 6
18 March Evening Session Ends ..... G 6
18 Mar Bilateral Meetings ..... G 6
19 Mar Bilateral Meetings ..... G 7
Lausanne Political Figures Interview on Lebanon ..... G 7
Al-Jumayyil Interview 16 Mar *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... G 7
Al-Jumayyil Swiss TV Interview *[ANSA]* ..... G 9
Al-Jumayyil French TV Interview *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 9
Al-Jumayyil, Birri Interviews Reported ..... G 10
Lebanese TV Interviews Birri ..... G 10
Beirut Radio Interviews Birri ..... G 10
Junblatt Meets Journalists ..... G 11
Junblatt Supports Secularization *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 11
Paris Radio Interviews Junblatt ..... G 12
Beirut Cites Junblatt Interview ..... G 12
Franjiyah AL-BAYAN Remarks ..... G 12
Lebanese Military Official on Syrian Pressure *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 13
Further on Remarks *[DIE WELT]* ..... G 13
Lebanon To Request French Aid for Security Body ..... G 13
Al-Mas'ud Reportedly Says Syria Will Withdraw *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 13
Beirut Radio on Security Situation in Lebanon ..... G 13
Salim: No New Security Arrangements *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 14
Beirut Clashes Reported ..... G 14
Amal Oficial on Cease-fire ..... G 14
Druze Commander on Cease-fire ..... G 14
Junblatt Meets Israeli Knesset Speaker *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 15
Two Israeli Soldiers Wounded in South Lebanon *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 15
Israeli Activity Reported ..... G 15

SYRIA

Aliyev Leaves Syria, Makes Statement ..... H 1
TISHRIN Lauds Syrian-Soviet Cooperation *[13 Mar]* ..... H 1
Ba'th Party Sends Message to CPSU Committee ..... H 1
Al-Asad, Al-Jumayyil Talk on Lausanne Meeting ..... H 2
Press Coverage on Lausanne Conference ..... H 2
TISHRIN on Success Factors ..... H 2
Commentary on Undermining Dialogue ..... H 2
AL-BA'TH on 'Sabotage' Attempts ..... H 3
TISHRIN on Sectarianism ..... H 3
ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Pictures Rif'at al-Asad ..... H 4
AR-RAYAH Interviews Defense Minister Talas *[QNA]* ..... H 4
Lebanon Decreases U.S. Credibility for Arabs ..... H 4
Egypt, Jordan Urged To Abandon Pro-U.S. Line ..... H 5
UN Assistant Secretary General Concludes Visit ..... H 6

ISRAEL

Shamir 12 Mar Letter to Shultz on Lebanon *[DAVAR 19 Mar]* ..... I 1
UNIFIL Officers Optimistic on Lebanon Deployment *[DAVAR 18 Mar]* ..... I 1
Government Opposed to 'Active' UNIFIL Role ..... I 1
Syrian-Shi'ite Plan To Increase Pressure in S. Lebanon *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 19 Mar]* ..... I 2
Security Sources Say No Plan To Withdraw Soon ..... I 2

IDF Casualties Reported in Lebanon 18 March ..... I 2
Incident Near Sidon ..... I 2
Incident in Eastern Sector ..... I 2
Phalangist Commander Aframon Lausanne Talks ..... I 2
Lebanese Army Brigade Soldiers in South Lebanon ..... I 3
Rabin: Look at Husayn's Deeds, Not Declarations *[DAVAR 18 Mar]* ..... I 3
David Kimche Pays Secret Visit to Africa ..... I 3
Economic Ties Discussed *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 19 Mar]* ..... I 3
Government 'Very Carefully' Following Sudan Tension *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 19 Mar]* ..... I 3
Alignment To Submit Motion To Dissolve Knesset ..... I 3
Soviet Peace Delegation Arrives March 16 ..... I 3
Opposition Members Meet Soviets ..... I 4
MAPAM Delegation Meets Visitors ..... I 4
New Soviet-Made Radar Station in Lebanon Reported *[HA'ARETZ 18 Mar]* ..... I 4
IDF Spokesman Comments ..... I 4
'Arafat Discusses West Bank Meeting in Interview *['AL HAMISHMAR 18 Mar]* ..... I 4
Molotov Cocktail Thrown at West Bank Mukhtar's Home ..... I 4

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Guinean President Arrives in Algiers ..... Q 1
Upper Volta Defense Minister Arrives for Visit ..... Q 1

LIBYA

JANA Reports Bombing of Omdurman Radio ..... Q 1
Sudanese Minister Cited ..... Q 1
JANA Cites BBC Report ..... Q 1
London Group 'Confirms' Bombing ..... Q 1
Numayri Allegations on Bombing Raid Refuted ..... Q 2
Arab League, OAU Contacted ..... Q 2
Tripoli Views Unrest, 'Revolution' in Sudan ..... Q 2
JANA: Mubarak, U.S. Envoy Discuss Sudan Plot ..... Q 3
Fatah, PFLP-GC Officials Arrive in Tripoli ..... Q 3

MOROCCO

King Urges Reagan To Prevent Embassy Move ..... Q 3
Guinea's President Sekou Toure Concludes Visit ..... Q 4
King Receives Visitor ..... Q 4
Toure Departs for Algeria ..... Q 4
9 Reported Sentenced Over January Violence ..... Q 4

SUDAN

Government Reacts Strongly to Air Raid ..... Q 5
Numayri Accuses Libya ..... Q 5
More on Numayri Comments ..... Q 5
Central Leadership Condemns Bombing ..... Q 6
Foreign Ministry Issues Statement ..... Q 6
Council of Ministers' Statement ..... Q 7
Cabinet Scores 'Libyan Aggression' ..... Q 7
World Bodies Notified of Omdurman Raid ..... Q 7
Numayri Confers With Other Mideast Leaders ..... Q 8
Receives Egypt's Al-Baz, Message ..... Q 8
Telephones King Fahd ..... Q 8
Receives UAE President's Call ..... Q 8
Emergency UN Security Council Session Requested ..... Q 8
Numayri, Egypt's Defense Minister Confer on Raid *[MENA]* ..... Q 9

People's Assembly Condemns Libyan Raid, Plots ..... Q 9
AFP Cites Report on 'Soviet-Made' Bomb ..... Q 10

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Government 'Knew Nothing' About Omdurman Bombing ..... R 1
Somali, Libyan Fronts Condemn Tension in Horn *[Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Front]* ..... R 1

KENYA

Statement Issued on Security Along Ugandan Border ..... R 1

SOMALIA

'Bitter Fighting' Continues In Central Region *[Radio Halgan]* ..... R 1

TANZANIA

SWAPO's Nujoma, Toivo Meet With President Nyerere ..... R 2
Report on Arrival ..... R 2
'Lengthy Discussions' With Nyerere ..... R 2
Nujoma Denounces Conference Proposal ..... R 2

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAMEROON

Moroccan Minister Meets Biya, Assesses W. Sahara ..... S 1

CHAD

Change of Tactics by Goukouni Forces Portrayed *[Paris LE MONDE16 Mar]* ..... S 1

ZAIRE

Joint Communique on Portuguese President's Visit ..... S 2

WEST AFRICA

CAPE VERDE

Dos Santos, En Route to Cuba, Received by Pereia *[AFP]* ..... T 1
Kampuchean Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit *[AFP]* ..... T 1
Portuguese-Speaking Countries To Hold Summit 'Soon' *[AFP]* ..... T 1

GUINEA

Toure Departs for Visit to Algiers 17 March ..... T 1

GUINEA-BISSAU

Ousted Premier Relieved of Party Functions *[Lisbon]* ..... T 1
Foreign Minister on Asylum Request ..... T 1

MALI

Soviet, Canadian Ambassadors Present Credentials ..... T 1

NIGER

Kountche Receives Iranian Official, Delegation ..... T 1
Iranian Comments ..... T 1
Uranium Sales Considered *[AFP]* ..... T 2
Expanded Cooperation ..... T 2
Kountche Receives Upper Voltan Defense Minister ..... T 2

NIGERIA

Gambari Attends Strategic Issues Conference ..... T 3
Names Foreign Policy Goals ..... T 3
Meets With Shultz ..... T 3
Idiagbon: Rumors of Invasion Not Taken Lightly ..... T 3
Panic Over Rumors of Maitatsine Attack in Maiduguri ..... T 4

SENEGAL

Diouf Discusses 15 March Visit to Cape Verde ..... T 4

UPPER VOLTA

Egyptian Foreign Minister Arrives for 3-Day Visit ..... T 4

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

President dos Santos Leaves on 4-Day Visit to Cuba ..... U 1
Meeting With Castro Scheduled ..... U 1
UNITA Reportedly Kills Civilian in Huila ..... U 1

BOTSWANA

President Masire: Mozambique 'Obliged To Sign' Pact ..... U 1

LESOTHO

Spokesman Denies Country Planning Treaty With RSA ..... U 1

MADAGASCAR

ANC Representative Views Anti-Discrimination Rally ..... U 2

MALAWI

Transport Minister Leaves for Talks in Maputo ..... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

Foreign Minister Chissano on Accord with South Africa *[Algiers EL MOUDJAHID 7 Mar]* ..... U 2
Further Reports on Nkomati Accord Signing Ceremony ..... U 3
Malawi Delegation in Attendence ..... U 3
Machel Meets Swazi Leader ..... U 4
Party, State Leaders Meet ..... U 4
Successes Against 'Armed Bandits' in Machua Depicted ..... U 4
MNR Radio Calls on Frelimo Soldiers To Switch Sides *[Voice of Mozambique National Resistance]* ..... U 4

NAMIBIA

Multiparty Conference Welcomes Signing of Accord ..... U 5
Conference Session Postponed *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 5
Bessinger Reports Toivo Appointed to SWAPO Politburo *[SAPA]* ..... U 5

SOUTH AFRICA

Foreign Minister Comments on Botha-Machel Meeting ..... U 5
'Personal Accord' Seen Between Botha, Machel ..... U 5
Herstigte Leader Marais Criticizes Nkomati Accord *[Umtata Capital Radio]* ..... U 6
Mozambique Ready To Provide Cahora Bassa Security ..... U 6
Pik Botha Warns Hart on Sanctions Against RSA *[Mbabane]* ..... U 6
ANC Spokesman Denies Bases in Mozambique *[Addis Ababa Radio Freedom]* ..... U 6
Terrorist Given 20 Years for Botha Bombing Attempt ..... U 7

SWAZILAND

Officials Hail RSA-Mozambique Nonaggression Pact *[THE SWAZI NEWS 17 Mar]* ..... U 7

ZAMBIA

Nujoma Speech in Lusaka on Namibian Independence *[Harare Voice of Namibia]* ..... U 8
Party Official Assures SWAPO Leaders of Support ..... U 9

ZIMBABWE

Prime Minister Calls for End to RSA Apartheid System ..... U 9
Nkomo Says Rally Broken Up by ZANU-PF Youths *[Umtata Capital Radio]* ..... U 9

'Arafat Chairs Military Council Meetings in San'a'

JN162130 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] The Palestinian Military Council chaired by Yasir 'Arafat continues its meetings in the YAR capital, San'a'. During its meetings, the Council will discuss a number of subjects concerning the Palestinian revolution, headed by the conditions of the Palestinian forces in the host Arab countries, the military situation, and the issue of escalating military operations agaisnt the occupation forces inside the occupied homeland and in southern Lebanon.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met yesterday with YAR President Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. During the meeting, the latest developments in the Palestinian and Arab arenas were discussed, as well as current events in the light of the important developments and successive events the Arab nation is passing through — events that make action necessary to face the serious threats. They also discussed militant relations between the Palestinian and the Yemeni revolutions.

Confers With Iraqi Ambassador

JN162126 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Brother leader Yasir 'Arafat yesterday evening received at his office in San'a' the Iraqi ambassador to the YAR. During the meeting, the latest developments in the Palestinian question were discussed. The meeting also focused on the developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war and the results of the meetings of the Arab foreign ministers, which ended earlier this week in Baghdad.

Meetings End

GF161244 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] San'a', 16 Mar (WAKH) — The meetings of the Supreme Military Council of the Palestinian revolution, which were held in San'a' under the chairmanship of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, ended today. The Military Council set up committees to follow up on the resolutions that have been adopted. It discussed the organizational and combat situation of the forces of the Palestinian revolution, ways of escalating the armed struggle, and the maintenance of the tempo of military operations against the Zionist enemy inside the occupied territories and in southern Lebanon. The Military Council emphasized the need for constant military training so that the forces of the Palestinian revolution will attain the standard required of them. The Military Council also examined the ability of these forces to act and move in line with political and military developments. Yasir 'Arafat read a detailed report on the political situation, the results of his visit to several Arab and African countries, and developments in Lebanon.

'Arafat Leaves San'a' 17 Mar

JN171923 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1611 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar left San'a' today following a 4-day visit to the YAR. During the visit, Abu 'Ammar held talks with YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. The talks dealt with the recent developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas in light of the results of Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to a number of Arab and African states. In a statement upon leaving San'a', Brother Abu 'Ammar said that the meetings of the higher Palestinian Military Council, which were held in the YAR capital recently, dealt with the means of escalating armed struggle inside the occupied homeland and southern Lebanon against the Zionist occupation forces.

Khalil al-Wazir Meets With Jordanian Officials

JN181721 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1613 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, held talks in Amman today with a number of Jordanian officials on the joint cooperation between the PLO and Jordan. Brother Abu Jihad arrived in Amman the day before yesterday from Tunis after participating in the Fatah Central Committee meetings held in Tunis recently in the presence of brother leader Abu 'Ammar.

BAHRAIN

Saudi Defense Minister Arrives in Manama

GF161138 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1120 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Manama, 16 Mar (WAKH) — Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, arrived here from Dhahran this afternoon on a 2-day private visit to Bahrain at the invitation of His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahrain heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force.

Visits Causeway Site

GF171617 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1220 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Manama, 17 Mar (WAKH) — Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation, visited the site of the Bahraini-Saudi causeway.

During the visit, Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz was accompanied by Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and commander in chief of Bahrain Defense Force, and 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Qadi, Saudi ambassador to Bahrain.

Leaves Manama for Riyadh

GF171619 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1310 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Manama, 17 Mar (WAKH) — Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, left Manama for Riyadh this afternoon after a 2-day private visit to Bahrain.

KUWAIT

Council of Ministers Denounces Omdurman Bombing

LD181032 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1012 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Kuwait, 18 Mar (KUNA) — The Council of Ministers today expressed its denunciation and condemnation of the attack on the Sudanese town of Omdurman by an unidentified aircraft.

The council stated that this strange incident to which the sister country was exposed, resulting in material damage and loss of many lives of innocent compatriots, is considered a violation of international laws and human [word indistinct].

The Council expressed its regret at such an incident taking place and expressed its hope that it would not be repeated in the future and wished the fraternal Sudanese people all well-being and stability.

ARAB TIMES Backs Husayn's Views on U.S. Ties

GF181526 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 17 Mar 84 p 8

["Opinion" column by Editor-in-Chief Ahmad al-Jarallah: "Principles Diminish as Election Fever Rises"]

[Text] When the fever of US presidential elections rises, all talk of principles becomes meaningless. This was the view of King Husayn of Jordan when he discussed with the US Jordan's relations with the rest of the Arab world.

In any case, the United States has shown more than once that it is not loyal to its allies, partly because it has democratic institutions. When Hitler swept across Europe, occupying one country after another, US businessmen were entertaining Nazi importers and giving them all kinds of support. The situation has not changed much, and King Husayn is right in speaking about Arab anger towards the US.

For while we find Iraq trying to bring peace back to the area, we see the US supplying weapons to Israel and Korea who can act as third parties to channel the weapons to Iran. Exports are important to the US and will not stop flowing until there is another Pearl Harbor. But we do not know from where the new attack will come, though the beneficiary this time could be the Soviet Union.

King Husayn is quite right in his analysis of the situation. He is known to be the brains of Arab politics because he has absorbed the diplomacy of the big powers and dealt with them for a long time. The US has always thwarted the hopes of the Arab world, and the Arab sense of despair grows more acute at every election because the Arabs are not as active as Israel in American society.

Until we become as effective a power among the American people, the picture of Arab-US relations as drawn by King Husayn will continue to be the real one.

Crown Prince Views Internal Security, Other Issues

LD181148 Kuwait KUNA in English 1000 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Kuwait, March 18 (KUNA) — His Highness the Crown Prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah has affirmed in an interview published here Sunday that the security authority was on full alert against suspicious elements in the country.

He told the *AL-WATAN* daily that limiting inspection campaigns does not mean an end to the prosecution of these elements but rather "a quiet pursual" and asserted "the decisive policy we have announced more than once will not be reviewed."

Work permits and visas are scrutinized by the Ministries of Interior and Social Affairs and Labor, Shaykh Sa'd noted and added that the Labor Ministry has proposed that work permits should be given only to specific type of technicians who are not available in Kuwait. The premier attributed the country's current economic recession to two main reasons, first the Manakh stock

market crisis and its repercussions and second the Iraqi-Iranian war. The crown prince pointed out that he is interested in the positive items in the study tabled by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry on means of activating the country's economy.

Shaykh Sa'd expressed optimism that economic conditions in Kuwait will improve after the government departments implement these positive items and highlighted that latest import-export figures further indicate that such an improvement is in the offing. He declined to elaborate on this issue but underscored that major projects contribute to the reactivation of the economy.

Asked about cooperation between the government and the National Assembly, the premier affirmed that it is continuing since "we are one family and are all interested in serving the nation." The crown prince agreed that modernization of the administrative apparatus in Kuwait is a necessity and pointed out that a number of government departments suffer from an increasing number of idle employees.

The minister of state for legal and administrative affairs Shaykh Salman al-Dueij as-Sabah is currently preparing a memorandum on this issue that will be discussed shortly, he explained. The premier affirmed that his government is greatly concerned with the housing issue and is constantly seeking to reduce the period between registering for a house and obtaining one.

His Highness declared that if the problem was only financial, then the solution is easy, but noted that the type of required houses is the obstacle, "due to our social conditions, since citizens do not wish to live in apartments," and at the same time the contractors' construction ability is limited and cannot meet the accumulated demands.

Asked about the government's future plans in this respect, Shaykh Sa'd replied that the housing problem is important yet the crucial issue is providing other resources for the country's treasury. The time has come to find other financial resources that could be feasible through imposing fees on the state services such as customs, health care, electricity and departments of the interior ministry, Shaykh Sa'd said, adding, however, that limited income groups will not be affected by such a step.

His Highness disclosed that he asked concerned ministers to prepare a list of current fees and their views on increasing them. The memorandum will be discussed by a ministerial committee before endorsement, Shaykh Sa'd said, adding that the step aims at reducing expenditure and to bring citizens up to their responsibility towards the state.

OMAN

Deputy Premier on Navy's Role in Hormuz

GF171403 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1155 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Muscat, 17 Mar (WAKH) — Fahar ibn Taymur, Omani deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs, has emphasized that the Sultanate's naval forces are rendering good service in safeguarding navigation in the Strait of Hormuz, in protecting and guarding ships, in providing services when needed, and in assisting ships which run into trouble in the strait.

In a statement to the Omani newspaper *AL-WATAN*, published today, Fahar ibn Taymur said Sultan Qabus of Oman pays much attention to the training of leading cadres for the sultanate's Armed Forces. He indicated that this was taken into consideration in the future plans for improving the Armed Forces by setting up a specialized military academy to conduct overall and comprehensive training of leading cadres for the sultanate's Armed Forces. He emphasized the need for cordination, cooperation, and integration among the GCC Armed Forces to defend the region's security and stability which are the common responsibility of the region's countries. In this regard, the region's countries have made great strides in military cooperation and coordination and there are intensive efforts to develop a joint strategy which we could implement when needed, he said.

Fahar ibn Taymur announced that Oman is building its intrinsic strength so that it would be able to carry out its leading role in defending the region.

QATAR

Foreign Ministry Denounces Raid on Sudan

GF181345 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry has expressed deep regret over the air raid on the radio station in the city of Omdurman in the Democratic Republic of Sudan, which killed a number of innocent civilians.

In reply to a QNA question on this subject, he said that the State of Qatar denounces such aggressive activities, which contradict human principles and disturb peace and security in a fraternal state. The source expressed hope that these activities will not be repeated.

SAUDI ARABIA

Government Condemns Air Raid on Omdurman

LD181337 Riyadh SPA in English 1200 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Riyadh, March 18, SPA — Saudi Arabia has condemned the air strike against Sudan's official Omdurman radio on Friday.

An official Saudi source expressed the Kingdom's "disappointment and condemnation of this strange incident which claimed the lives of innocent civilians in a safe and stable country."

The source described the raid as a violation of the Sudanese air space and international norms.

The source said the Saudi Government expresses its deep sorrow over the attack and hopes it will not be repeated and expressed its best wishes for the government and people of Sudan and wish them continued security, stability and welfare.

Prince Sultan Returns From Bahrain Visit

GF171940 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Excerpt] His Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, arrived at Dhahran International Airport from Bahrain this evening.

Comments on Visit

GF181550 Manama WAKH in English 1508 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Ad-Dammam, 18 Mar (WAKH) — Saudi second deputy premier and defence and aviation minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has stressed the importance of frequent contacts and consultations among officials of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

In a statement to the Ad-Dammam-based newspaper *AL-YAWM*, Prince Sultan described his recent visit to Bahrain as "a friendly visit" within the framework of continuous consultations among officials of the Council's member states.

On the prospects of convening a GCC defence ministers meeting in light of current crucial circumstances, he said contacts were underway in this connection but the decision was up to the Council's Secretariat.

Prince Sa'ud Receives Danish Foreign Minister

LD182110 Riyadh SPA in English 1910 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Ad-Dammam, March 18, SPA — Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen met here tonight with his Saudi counterpart Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal.

At the end of the meeting, Prince Sa'ud told SPA that they had reviewed bilateral relations which they felt were developing to an excellent degree.

"We have also discussed developments in Middle East as the European Economic Community's Ministerial Council will meet tomorrow and review the situation in the region, particularly with regard to the Palestine cause and the Iran-Iraq war, Prince Sa'ud said.

Prince Sa'ud expressed hope that European circles would have a good and positive understanding of the Middle East problem that could ensure a just and durable solution of the problem, securing rights of the Palestinian people.

The meeting was attended by Saudi Ambassador to Denmark Taha 'Ali Aldeghather as well as the Danish ambassador to the Kingdom and the Danish deputy foreign minister for political affairs.

UAE

President Receives Phone Call From Numayri

GF171616 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1240 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 17 Mar (WAM) — His highness the president, Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, received a phone call this afternoon from Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri.

During the call, they exchanged views on the latest developments in the Arab arena and the need to bolster joint Arab action in the next stage.

AL-BAYAN on U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem

GF181555 Manama WAKH in English 1520 GMT 18 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 18 Mar (WAKH) — Commenting on the U.S. intention to move the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and the American-Israeli schemes to retaliate against the abrogation of the May 17 Lebanese-Israeli treaty, *AL-BAYAN* of Dubayy said:

"Serious action is a thousand times better than statements of denunciation issued after decisions are taken that contradict Arab rights and violate the international resolutions." The newspaper added: "The Zionist lobby in the U.S. succeeded in pushing the issue of the embassy to the top among issues submitted before Congress. If matters remained unchanged in the absence of an Arab action, then the vote will be in favor of moving the embassy.

"Although the American administration is not yet committed to any decision, deliberation of the issue is itself a dangerous precedent that should not be met with passiveness. Mondale, a contender in the Democratic Party race, agrees with the Congress and has bluntly declared that he intends to move the embassy if he succeeds in the presidential election campaign."

The newspaper called on the U.S. to refrain from taking such an action because "it has substantial interests in the Arab world, and because the Americans should not be so biased toward the Zionist entity to the extent that they violate international resolutions they have already agreed to."

YAR

PLO's 'Arafat Issues Statement, Departs 17 Mar

GF171948 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Brother Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the forces of the Palestinian revolution, left San'a' today at the end of a 4-day visit to the YAR. 'Arafat met with President Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and discussed with him the latest Arab and Palestinian developments. He also chaired the meetings of the Supreme Military

Council of the Palestinian revolution.

In a statement to SABA', Brother Yasir 'Arafat said that during his visit he held talks with Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the leader president and secretary general of the General People's Congress, on current Palestinian and Arab developments and the results of the discussions he held prior to the meetings of the Supreme Military Council of the Palestinian revolution.

Yasir 'Arafat said that as always the president gave his full support to the Palestinian cause.

In conclusion Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] referred to the meetings of the Supreme Military Council and said: It was agreed to escalate the military struggle in the occupied territories. The organizational measures in various Palestinian sectors were discussed.

'Arafat was seen off by officials, Hikmat Zayd, PLO representative in San'a', and 'Abdallah Abu al-Hinud, director of Yasir 'Arafat's office in San'a'.

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REF GF151932 SAN'A' DOMESTIC SERVICE ARABIC 151700 -- YAR: STANDING COMMITTEE BEGINS SIXTH ORDINARY SESSION

Standing Committee Concludes Sixth Session
GF181808 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The Standing Committee of the General People's Congress concluded the work of its sixth ordinary session at noon today under the chairmanship of Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress. The committee this morning resumed the work of its sixth session to continue the discussion of the issues on its agenda.

Final Statement Issued
GF181815 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Final statement issued after sixth ordinary session of Standing Committee of General People's Congress in San'a' on 18 March]

[Excerpts] The Standing Committee held its sixth ordinary session under the chairmanship of Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress.

The sixth session lauds the positive results of the qualification courses for the political guidance officials in the cooperatives sectors and considers it an important addition to the qualification courses which were held in civil and military sectors.

Regarding the foreign arena, the Arab and Islamic situation occupied an important position in the discussions of the sixth session. The committee highly assessed the good relations between our country and the fraternal and friendly countries based on mutual respect, joint interests, and the principle of similar treatment and affirmed the choices of our people in unity, nonalignment, and support for the Arab and Islamic causes, foremost of which is the Palestinian cause.

The Standing Committee assesses the important role of our country in supporting the Palestinian revolution and its keenness for the unity of its ranks and independence of decision within the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of our Palestinian people.

Regarding the shedding of Muslim blood caused by the Iraqi-Iranian war, the Standing Committee affirms the importance of the cessation of this tragic war from which nobody profits except the enemies of our Arab and Islamic nation, the Zionist and imperialist forces. It urges the Iranian leadership to respond to the peaceful efforts made to end the fight and to make effort for its termination in order to preserve the energies of the two Muslim countries and resolve the dispute peacefully in a way that guarantees the legal rights of the two sides.

The Standing Committee appreciates Iraq's response to all peace efforts and also the Lebanese Government's decision to cancel the 17 May agreement. It calls on the fraternal Lebanese people to achieve thier national unity in light of preserving the Arabism and sovereignty of Lebanon.

We will always continue to desire to better ourselves with a great confidence emerging from the power of our abidding by our righteous Islamic religion.

Raid on Omdurman Condemned, Support Offered

Foreign Ministry Statement

NC161714 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1650 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 16 Mar (MENA) — Egypt has announced its denunciation and condemnation of the air raid on the Sudanese city of Omdurman today. Egypt affirms that it firmly sides with Sudan and will support and defend it. An official source in the Foreign Ministry has made the following statement:

Egypt has received with extreme concern the news of the aggressive action which an unidentified TU-22 aircraft carried out against the city of Omdurman in the fraternal Republic of Sudan. The Egyptian people and government strongly denounce and condemn this boyish and reckless adventure, which, in fact, reflects the mentality of its planners. Egypt announces that it will stand by fraternal Sudan and will support and defend it. Egypt is confident that such rash actions and nervous behavior will inevitably fail, and their effects will boomerang on those who seek to create chaos and shake stability.

Sudan's Numayri Briefs Mubarak

NC161901 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1852 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 16 Mar (MENA) — MENA has learned that Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri contacted President Husni Mubarak at noon today and apprised him of the details of the external aggression to which Omdurman was subjected this morning. President Mubarak sent Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, to meet with President Numayri in Khartoum to discuss all aspects of the situation with the Sudanese brothers.

Mubarak Receives Abu Ghazalah

NC171328 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] This afternoon President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and defense minister, who returned to Cairo from Khartoum this morning.

Reacting to the recent events in Sudan, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah said what happened was extremely dangerous. He said this incident was irresponsible and rash. He expressed the hope that it would not be repeated as the consequences would be extremely serious. Abu Ghazalah said: Most likely the aircraft, a Tupolev 22, took off from Al-Kufrah, and that in the area this type of aircraft only exists at Al-Kufrah.

Abu Ghazalah said: We are watching all western borders including Sudan's, and we will take measures to prevent a recurrence in the future.

Asked about the measures that Egypt would take to protect Sudan, Abu Ghazalah said that there is a joint defense pact between Egypt and Sudan, and that Egypt is currently appraising the situation. He added that the incident does not constitute a threat to Egypt, but rather a direct threat to Sudan.

Mubarak Calls Raid 'Madness'

NC171428 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak made a statement to reporters following his meetings today. He said the attack against Sudan is a grave act.

Answering a question about the small raid on Omdurman, the president said: A small raid on Sudan is viewed as a major incident and an act of madness. I do not believe that those who carried it out are at all civilized. At 1200 yesterday, President Numayri briefed me on this small raid carried out by a Tupolev 22 plane, a type of plane owned only by Libya.

The president added: It so happens that 2 days ago I received a verbal message from the Libyan president expressing a desire to reopen the borders and to establish good cooperation and unity with Egypt. This is the fourth or fifth time in a year that the Libyan president has communicated this desire to me. Everytime I hear this, I realize that something is being prepared.

The president continued: I was discussing this [message] during a meeting at my office at 0900 yesterday. I heard about the raid at 1200. This is incredible. Generally speaking, we are adopting certain measures. I believe it is better to wait and watch the situation.

Asked once again about the message he wishes to send to Libya, the president said: I do not want to make any comment on these acts. What I have said is enough; namely, whoever commits such an irresponsible act should be responsible for it.

Replying to another question on whether there is a threat to Egypt, the president said: I hope there will be no threats. But if [Al-Qadhdhafi] wants to threaten Egypt then this will be a different matter.

Asked if specific measures have been taken to defend Egypt and Sudan, President Mubarak replied: To defend Egypt against whom? The correspondent who asked the question said: Against those responsible for the act. President Mubarak said: We are ready to confront any event. As for irresponsible acts, I do not believe that any wise person would ever commit any act such as that committed against Sudan.

Sudanese Chief of Staff Arrives

NC171425 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Mar (MENA) — Sudanese Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Suwwar adh-Dhahab and his delegation arrived in Cairo this afternoon. The Sudanese military delegation will hold urgent talks with Egyptian military officials.

Al-Baz Leaves for Khartoum

NC170635 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2305 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 16 Mar (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, left Cairo for Khartoum late tonight on a one-day visit to Sudan.

Dr Al-Baz said before his departure that his visit to Khartoum is within the context of the contacts with Sudanese leadership in light of the aggression to which Omdurman was subjected this morning.

Mubarak Meets With Advisers

NC180943 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0850 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 18 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met this morning with his advisers in the political group to discuss political developments in the area, the events in Sudan, and other urgent issues. Attending the meeting were Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din,prime minister; Dr Kamil Laylah, people's assembly speaker; Dr Suhbi 'Abd al-Hakim, consultative council speaker; Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister, minister of defense and war production field marshal; Hasan Abu Basha, interior Minister; and Safwat ash-Sharif. minister of state for information

Following the meeting that lasted about 75 minutes 'Ali said that the conferees reviewed the political and military measures that have been taken by Egypt and Sudan regarding the aggressive air raid on the Omdurman broadcasting station last Friday. They also reviewed the measures that will confront such rash actions in the future.

Responding to a question on the visit to Cairo by Sudanese Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Suwwar adh-Dhahab, 'Ali said that the visit is within the framework of the measures currently being taken. There is also another Egyptian military delegation in Sudan to discuss these measures and take practical steps, which were enforced as soon the incident occurred.

Asked whether messages will be sent to neighboring countries such as Ethiopia calling for self-restraint, 'Ali said that as far as we know, Ethiopia is not a party in this issue.

Responding to a question whether Egypt and Sudan together or separately asked for help from foreign powers or U.S. aid, and about the Egyptian forces present in Sudan, 'Ali said: We are implementing the joint defense agreement between Egypt and Sudan. Since this incident was only confined to an attack on the Omdurman broadcasting station, there is no need for further aid.

Abu Ghazalah Sent to Khartoum

NC181521 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said that President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received a telephone call from Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri today. He added: President Mubarak has dispatched Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, to Khartoum in implementation of the Egyptian-Sudanese joint defense agreement. This means that each country considers any aggression against the other as an aggression on itself.

'Ali added that Egypt has adopted military measures to deter any future aggression. He said: Libya is responsible for this aggression [the air raid on Omdurman]. It previously launched an attack in July 1977 through Chad, and another attack in February 1982, when it carried out infiltration attempts and tried to attack the Sudanese broadcasting station. It is known that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi has been working to cause instability in Africa through interference in the affairs of African states and through the military adventures he is carrying out against these states.

Egypt Monitoring Western Borders

NC190757 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, will address the People's Assembly this morning on the air raid launched against Sudan's Omdurman last Friday.

Yesterday Assistant Foreign Minister Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid spoke to the People's Assembly Committee on Foreign Relations, saying that Egypt is monitoring its western borders as well as those of Sudan.

Egypt, Ash-Shafi'i added, will mobilize all available capabilities needed to confront such acts and preclude their repetition in the future. He said political and military meetings were held to examine the scope of such an aggression. According to Ash-Shafi'i,an elaborate study of this aggression is now underway.

Deterrence Measures Listed

NC180746 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Cairo, 18 Mar (MENA) — In today's issue, *AL-AHRAM* reports that the Egyptian stand on the aggression to which Sudan was subjected yesterday, in light of Egyptian-Sudanese contacts over the past 2 days and the political and military meetings in Cairo yesterday, focus on the following:

1. Egypt and Sudan will take all measures that will ensure that such serious aggression does not recur. Both countries will together take decisive action that will ensure the deterence or punishment of any aggressor if such an aggression is repeated. In other words, any new aggressive act against Sudan will not go unpunished.

2. In addition to the military experts now participating in the Egyptian-Sudanese joint operations, who left with Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah the day before yesterday, there are other Egyptian military groups on their way to Sudan. These groups represent various organizations of the Egyptian Armed Forces. They will consult with the Sudanese Armed Forces in detail on military issues effectively and forcefully to prevent any threats to Sudan or interference in its domestic affairs.

3. President Husni Mubarak himself has approved and endorsed all these measures which were prepared in Cairo yesterday. They will be implemented promptly to prevent a repetition of such rash aggression.

Security for Sudan Supported

NC171519 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Ahmad al-Qasir commentary: "Threatening Sudan's Security and Stability Is a Direct Threat to Egypt's Security and Stability"]

[Text] The serious aggression against Omdurman in fraternal Sudan — an aggression carried out by an unidentified Tupolev 22 which strafed the radio station and several houses — is a blatant violation of the principles of international law and UN charters. It is also a direct aggression with serious dimensions against an Arab, African, and Islamic independent sovereign state. The aggression, furthermore, is another act of piracy and terrorism that is being carried out by some, from time to time,in order to play with fire and shake security and stability in the Arab region and Africa in an attempt to prove themselves and attract attention.

Although all signs indicate that the Libyan regime was behind this irresponsible, reckless act, as was announced by the Sudanese Foreign Ministry last night, there is still an important fact that all must understand: Fraternal Sudan is not alone. Any threat, from far or near, to Sudan is a direct threat to Egypt's security and stability. This position is in accordance with the joint defense pact which is part of the integration process between Egypt and Sudan.

The raid also represents a direct aggression and threat against all Arab and African countries, in accordance with the joint Arab defense pact and the OAU charter. Due to the serious consequences that might result from this serious aggressive act against fraternal Sudan, Egypt swiftly moved to support Sudan and to strongly stand by it in order to confront the situation with firmness and determination. Hence, Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and defense minister, left for Khartoum last night with a message from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to president Ja'far Numayri. This message reiterated Egypt's support for and solidarity with Sudan. Moreover, president Mubarak issued instructions to Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah to take certain measures to confront all events in order to deter any aggression. Also, Dr Usamah al-Baz went to Khartoum for urgent political consultations with President Numayri and senior Sudanese officials in light of the aggression against Omdurman yesterday.

At a time when we announce the Egyptian people's and government's denunciation of these childish attempts aiming to shake security and stability and interfere in the domestic affairs of the fraternal Republic of Sudan, we strongly affirm Egypt's total commitment to and solidarity with the Sudanese people. This is to repulse any aggression that any foreign party may try to carry out to achieve personal ambitions of this or that foreign force. We also emphasize that Egypt and Sudan are capable of deterring any aggressive attempt against Egyptian or Sudanese soil. At a time when we condemn this criminal act against the Sudanese people, we urge international communities and world organizations, particularly Arab and African countries and the OAU, to shoulder their responsibilities and take all necessary measures against those who threaten the security of independent countries and try to impose a form of terrorism on the international community.

Al-Qadhdhafi Blamed for Raid

NC180906 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0520 GMT 18 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Fruit of Aggression", *AL-AHRAM* says it seems insufficient to describe Al-Qadhdhafi as a two-faced man. He says he is seeking to liberate Sudan inch by inch,by supporting the separatists in southern Sudan. At the same time he extends his hand, allegedly for reconciliation with Egypt, by announcing his readiness to send a green march across the border, to liberate Egypt and to impose unity on it.

AL-AHRAM says that such people make proposals to match their hate, and that Al-Qadhdhafi's recent air raid on Omdurman demonstrated clearly his latent desire for aggression.

Sudan has gained by cementing closer ties and alliances with the Egyptian people and government. In addition, Sudan has received more international sympathy and financial and military, and moral support.

Commander Reported Ready To Use Chemical Weapons
JN190656 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Major General Mahir 'Abd ar-Rashid, commander of the Iraqi III Army Corps, has stated that he is ready to use all means, including chemical weapons, to defeat the Iranian forces. However, he explained that he has not received orders from the higher command in Baghdad to use chemical weapons. He added that Iran has massed more than 500,000 soldiers in the central sector and said that he expects the Iranian regular forces to participate in the new Iranian offensive.

On the other hand, Maj Gen 'Abd ar-Rashid told a group of foreign correspondents who visited the front east of Basra that Iraq has succeeded in recapturing part of the Majnun Islands. He added that the Iraqi forces are controlling the larger part of these islands.

Israel Warned Against Attacking Fertilizer Plant
JN171956 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1920 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] An Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman this evening made a statement to INA on the nature of the work of the Akashat fertilizer plant. The spokesman warned the Zionist enemy that if it is thinking of perpetrating the crime of striking the plant, this act will not pass without an appropriate response.

He also warned any party against providing any facilities to the Iranian Air Force on its territory or through its air space to carry out a criminal act against our economic installations. The spokesman stresses that the Zionist enemy must understand that June 1984 is not June 1981. [as heard] The following is the text of statement:

In spite of the clarifications substantiated with facts and information that were contained in the Iraqi minister of industry and minerals statement, dated 15 March 1984, on the nature of the work undertaken by the Akashat fertilizer plant, the Zionist and Iranian trumpets, which are working in complete coordination, have not stopped disseminating allegations that the plant produces the so-called chemical weapons.

We know the real objectives of these allegations. They aim at preparing the proper atmosphere, within the fabricated campaign about chemical weapons, to strike this plant and other Iraqi economic targets.

We warn the Zionist enemy that if it thinks of perpetrating such a crime, as it did in its aggression against the Iraqi nuclear reactor for peaceful purposes in April [as heard] 1981, it must understand that June 1984 is not June 1981, and that any adventure of this kind will not pass without an appropriate response.

We also warn any party which provides any kind of facilities to the Iranian Air Force on its territory or through its air space to carry out a criminal act against our economic installations.

Commander on Anticipated Iranian Offensive
JN180658 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0610 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Mar (INA) — The commander of the Iraqi III Army Corps has said that the Iranian forces which are trying to launch a new attack on the Iraqi territories will receive stronger and more violent blows than the ones they received in the battles of the last few weeks.

In a statement to the newspaper *ATH-THAWRAH*, published here today, he emphasized: Our destruction of the enemy will be both quick and decisive. He added: We wish the enemy would assemble all the remnants of its army and guards, who are forced to wage war, so that we can wipe them out.

He added that the information available to the Iraqi military command indicates that the Iranian command has put together the remnants from the various sectors in order to carry out the anticipated offensive. He warned that the Iraqi forces will not only strike at the attacking forces, but will also strike deep inside Iranian territory.

Concluding, the military commander said: Annihilation is awaiting the Iranian concentrations regardless of their size.

Dailies Comment on Anticipated Iranian Offensive
JN180801 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0630 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Mar (INA) — Two local newspapers today assert that the anticipated Iranian offensive against Iraq will end in utter destruction. In their editorials, both papers say that the Iraqis will be lying in wait for the enemy and its ambitions and will destroy all its concentrations.

ATH-THAWRAH says: The Iranian enemy's preparations for a new criminal offensive will definitely be wiped out and destroyed by the determination of the Iraqi men. The new battle will be a lesson for those knaves and their grandsons throughout ages. It emphasizes: We will strike at specific targets deep inside the enemy territory and their concentrations will be torn to pieces in the worst possible manner. It adds: The enemy will receive the suitable punishment it deserves at the hands of the Iraqi forces that are defending Iraq's territory, and the enemy's defeated concentrations will disappear in a large crematorium. The aggressor forces will be faced by heroes who know how to deliver painful blows and destroy their reckless attempts one after the other.

AL-JUMHURIYAH stresses that the Iraqi forces will wipe out all the Iranian forces which attack Iraq, and says: We will not let anyone escape annihilation as this is the black destiny awaiting them and the severe punishment they deserve.

It adds: Henceforth we do not care how many aggressors we will wipe out. We only care for the protection of our country and the safety of our people. It indicates that the experience of our nation and all other nations has taught us that right can only be protected by force and that the international community is incapable of protecting the rights of the weak.

Therefore, it adds, we will never hesitate to use all the power we possess for the legitimate defense of our country, people, and vital interests. It warns that Iraq will not be satisfied to only wipe out the Iranian concentrations at the warfronts, but will also strike at specific targets deep inside Iran harder than they expect.

Spokesman Warns of New Offensive, Vows Revenge

JN170618 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0503 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A spokesman of the Armed Forces General Command has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Despite its bitter defeat in the battles of the III and IV Army Corps sector and east of Tigris — battles which raged before and after 20 February, the suspect enemy, which is prompted by overt and covert aims, is continuing to prepare for a new adventure. Thus, information available to us indicates that the day is drawing closer when this enemy is going to commit a new crime in another reckless, desperate attempt to infiltrate our international borders in order to attack targets inside Iraq — targets which the enemy has already defined for its frustrated forces.

However, relying on Almighty God, and stemming from our commitment to our word of honor before our great people and all the forces of good in the Arab nation and the world, we emphasize that our Armed Forces and all the sons of proud Iraq will lie in wait for the enemy and its ambitions. They will crush the heads that are filled with dirt. They will make the enemy's mean concentrations and forces into empty palm tree logs, with God's help and with the determination of great, zealous men, so that this battle will be a lesson for those scoundrels and for their grandchildren over the years, generation after generation.

We will strike at defined targets deep inside the enemy territory. We will strike at their troops and will tear them limb from limb. And soon will the unjust assailants know what vicissitudes their affairs will take. [Koranic verse]

[Dated] 17 March 1984

Military Commander on Iraq's Ability To Triumph

JN170933 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0904 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Mar (INA) — The commander of the IV Army Corps has asserted that Iraqi forces are fully ready to crush any expected Iranian offensive. In a statement to *ATH-THAWRAH* today, the commander said that Iraqi forces will destroy all the Iranian concentrations in any aggression.

He affirmed that the Iraqi forces are highly trained, that they possess advanced weapons, and that they enjoy high morale. The commander said: We are certain that our forces will emerge victorious, destroy any new Iranian aggression, and preserve every inch of Iraqi territory.

Armed Forces General Command Issues Communiques

No 1,406 — 16 March

JN161725 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Communique No 1,406 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 16 March 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The brave Iraqis, while confronting the aggressor Iranian enemy with all their strength and firmness, assert their ability to defend the homeland and the nation's future and to crush the covetous and suspect enemies. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Last night an enemy force tried to attack part of our forward units east of Basra. Our brave units confronted the enemy force, clashed with it with various types of weapons, and inflicted large losses on it. The known enemy losses opposite one of our units amounted to 174 killed and many others wounded.

Elsewhere in the same area, the enemy sustained two killed, and two vehicles and two excavators were destroyed.

2. Our capable Air Force aircraft today launched daring and successful raids on the enemy units and positions opposite our forward units' positions east of Basra, scoring direct and very effective hits and inflicting large losses in men, weapons, and equipment. All our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God. Our aircraft today carried out 145 combat missions.

3. Today our helicopter gunships attacked concentrations of the enemy troops, vehicles, and equipment in the areas opposite our forward units' positions in the east of Basra and east Tigris operational sectors, scoring accurate hits, inflicting a number of dead or wounded, and destroying a number of the enemy vehicles and equipment. All our helicopter gunships returned safely, praise be to God.

4. One of our forward units opened fire from various weapons on a number of enemy troops opposite our positions in the Maysan sector, killing four and destroying one infantry position.

5. One hardware stockpile was destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

6. Today, the clique of evil and filth in Iran shelled Basra and Mandali and their environs with heavy artillery. The savage enemy shelling wounded one citizen and damaged two civilian cars and a college building in Basra; and damaged some civilian establishments in Mandali.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 March 1984

No 1,407 — 17 March

JN171800 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1710 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Communique No 1,407 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 17 March 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Every time that the suspect Khomeyniite regime tries to perpetrate a new crime by attacking our militant country and crossing our lofty international borders, the soldiers of the glorious Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah will be lying in wait for it and, with God's help, will destroy all its troop concentrations, bury all of its foolhardly adventures, and transform all of its desperate attempts into tragedies that will befall the rancorous aggressors.

The results yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. A force belonging to our valiant forward units this morning attacked an enemy force opposite its positions in the area east of Basra. After waging a fierce and heroic fight, our force destroyed the enemy force and wiped it out. At 0610 today, the enemy tried to push a force belonging to its units to attack our valiant forward units in the same area. Our units confronted it with extreme courage, and a battle raged during which our staunch fighters succeeded in completely destroying the attacking enemy force.

The enemy sustained more than 1,000 dead, large numbers of wounded, and several tanks, vehicles, and weapons of various types destroyed. In another area in the same sector, one of our forward units succeeded in wiping out an enemy patrol which sought to approach its forward positions. Fifteen enemy elements were killed; 3 vehicles were set on fire, and their occupants killed; and 1 mortar and 1 excavator were destroyed.

2. The aircraft formations of our valiant Air Force today carried out fierce raids against enemy units, troop concentrations and weapons in the area opposite our forward units' positions east of Basra, scoring accurate and very effective hits, and inflicting on the enemy and its military hardware huge losses. They also set fire to many of its positions from which successive explosions could be heard. All our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God. Our aircraft carried out 119 combat missions today.

3. Our helicopter gunships belonging to the Army's Air Force today raided enemy positions, troop concentrations, and military hardware east of Basra, scoring direct and effective hits, and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. The counted enemy losses amount to 18 troop concentrations, 3 excavators, 2 personnel carriers, and 1 vehicle. All our helicopter gunships returned safely to base, praise be to God. Our helicopter gunships carried out 31 combat missions today.

4. Three were killed and three vehicles and one infantry position were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

5. Two were killed and one weapon emplacement was destroyed in the east Tigris operational sector.

6. One was killed and one observation post was destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

7. The criminal enemy yesterday evening and today shelled Basra, Mandali, and Zurbatiyah and its suburbs with heavy artillery. As a result of the barbaric enemy shelling, 3 civilians were martyred; 13 others, including several children and women, were wounded; 4 houses were destroyed, and 1 civilian car and several civilian installations were damaged in Basra. Several civilian installations were also damaged in Mandali and Zurbatiyah.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, on 17 March 1984

No 1,408 — 18 March

JN181733 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Communique No 1,408 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 18 March 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Day after day, the glorious Iraqis and their Armed Forces continue to increase their determination to confront the aggression and continue the fighting to defend honor, the homeland, and the nation's entity, while the losses of the criminal Khomeyniites are growing and their defeats and frustrations are multiplying. The results are as follows:

1. Our brave forward units pounded enemy positions, units, and troop concentrations opposite their positions east of Basra, killing 119; wounding others; and destroying 9 vehicles, 2 of which were carrying 106-mm guns, and the others were carrying personnel, 4 excavators, and 5 hardware stockpiles.

2. Our Army helicopter gunships today attacked enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite our forward positions east of Basra, scoring direct, effective hits. Our helicopters inflicted heavy losses in men and equipment. The all returned safely to base, thanks be to God.

3. New groups of Iranian soldiers, who are escaping from the inferno of charlatan Khomeyni and his sanguinary clique, sought refuge with our forces in the central sector of the front.

They were safely evacuated to the rear positions. In another area of the same sector, three enemy personnel were killed and one infantry position was destroyed.

4. One vehicle, one excavator, and one observation post were destroyed in the northern sector of the front.

5. One was kiled in the Maysan sector.

6. One infantry position was destroyed in the east of Tigris operational area.

7. The Iranian ruling clique of evil and crime today shelled Basra, Mandali, and their environs with heavy artillery. The shelling martyred one civilian and damaged a civilian building in Basra, and damaged a number of civilian establishments in Mandali.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 March 1984

Ramadan Addresses Popular Army Fighters
JN161657 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Comrade Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and Popular Army commander, has stressed that the method of confronting the criminal Iranian regime's aggression in the coming stage will decisively settle the battle in all fields.

Addressing fighters during his visit to a Popular Army training camp in the Babylon area today, Ramadan added:

The recent battles fought by our brave Armed Forces, the Popular Army fighters, and the sons of our great people were distinguished in the way they were carried out as well as in their size and results. These battles confirmed the Iraqi people's confidence in the inevitability of final victory in our just defensive war.

Joint Minutes, Agreements Signed With USSR
JN181636 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1520 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Mar (INA) — Iraq and the USSR today signed minutes of the 14th session of the joint Iraqi-USSR committee for economic, technical, and scientific cooperation. The minutes were signed for Iraqi by Iraqi Industry and Minerals Minister Subhi Yasin, and for the USSR by Yakov Ryabov, CPSU Central Committee member and chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. The minutes dealt with increasing joint cooperation in the field of implementing various projects, scientific research, and cadre training.

Yasin and Ryabov also signed a new economic agreement to implement a number of economic projects in the field of irrigation and hydroelectric power. They also signed a protocol on increasing the trade and commodity exchanges between the two countries.

During the signing ceremony, Yasin praised the results reached by the two sides to entrench and develop the Iraqi-USSR cooperation in the economic, technical, and scientific fields.

Ryabov expressed his satisfaction with the positive results reached by the committee in defining the scope of future cooperation between the two friendly countries. He said that the minutes have defined the main guidelines for the mutual benefits of the two countries in the future.

USSR Cables President on Agreement Anniversary
JN181238 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] President Saddam Husayn has received a congratulatory cable from the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Council of Ministers on the 25th anniversary marking the signing of the economic and technical cooperation agreement between Iraq and the Soviet Union. The following is the text of the cable:

Mr Saddam Husayn, RCC chairman and president of the Republic of Iraq: On the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the signing of the first economic and technical cooperation agreement between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Iraq, we send you and the friendly Iraqi people our congratulations and wishes of further success in strengthening national economy.

We are confident that relations between the Soviet Union and Iraq will develop in all fields for the welfare of the two countries' peoples.

[Signed] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers.

INA Cites TASS on U.S. 'Allegations'
JN161618 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Moscow, 16 Mar (INA) — The Soviet Union described the U.S. accusations that Iraq is using chemical weapons against the Iranian forces as sheer allegations.

In a cable from Washington today, the official Soviet news agency, TASS, says the statements U.S. State Department spokesman Hughes made to reporters in this regard yesterday were completely void of proof and evidence on Iraq's use of these weapons.

TASS stressed that this U.S. official's statements did not convince anyone. In this regard, the agency drew attention to the fact that French sources affirmed that the foreign reporters who visited the Iraqi-Iranian front did not find any evidence that the Iraqi forces had used poisonous gases.

In its cable, headlined "Lies," TASS stressed that the Iraqi Government had denied several times the U.S. allegations at a time when it welcomed a neutral investigation into this matter.

TASS accused the United States of exporting industrial substances containing poisonous materials whose effect is eqvivalent with chemical weapons.

Parliament Committee Supports Husayn Comments

JN181606 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Amman, 18 Mar (PETRA) — The Foreign Relations Committee of the Jordanian House of Representatives has expressed support for His Majesty King Husayn's recent statement to *THE NEW YORK TIMES* on the U.S. policy in the region. During a meeting it held today under its Chairman, Rizq al-Bayayinah, the committee issued a resolution which condemned U.S. practices of supporting Israeli aggression, by extending to Israel all kinds of moral and material assistance, and encouraging it to establish settlements and swallow up Arab land.

The committee denounced the anti-Arab Zionist-U.S. strategic alliance which is aimed at besieging the Arab homeland and tying it to agreements and treaties of alliance that serve the Israeli enemy's interests. The committee also condemned the voices that demand transferring the U.S. Embassy to Arab Jerusalem by orders of the Zionist lobby in the United States.

The committee referred to what His Majesty King Husayn told the U.S. paper; namely, that the United States has lost its credibility as a superpower and has not respected its international commitments — something which has made it, in the eyes of the peoples in the region, a state that is not sincere about being a neutral mediator in the Arab-Israeli dispute.

The committee called for convening a world peace conference to discuss the dispute in the region with the participation of the Soviet Union, the UN Security Council permanent member states, and the disputing parties.

Commentary Praises Remarks

JN170922 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Mar 84

["Today's Talk"]

[Text] The U.S. reaction to His Majesty King Husayn's*NEW YORK TIMES* statement has bypassed several facts just as the U.S. Administration's policy bypassed most issues and facts in the region through its recent moves. U.S. Middle East policy was summed up briefly by the remarks by Brzezinski, President Carter's former adviser for the National Security Council. Yesterday Brzezinski affirmed that U.S. Middle East policy has collapsed because it was based on false foundations. When His Majesty King Husayn presented his understanding of U.S. Middle East policy, he precisely explained the facts of the U.S. position toward the region. The U.S. Administration did not deny these facts, including complete U.S. commitment to Israel's security and the conclusion of the strategic cooperation with Israel during the most serious stage of the Middle East crisis.

His Majesty King Husayn has dotted the i's following 17 years of readiness to enter into a process that might lead to a just and comprehensive peace in the region. Jordan agreed on all the international initiatives and resolutions for solving the central problem for bringing about peace in the region. Jordan has never been responsible for the failure of those resolutions and initiatives to realize any progress for settling the region's crisis. U.S. Middle East policy is based on false foundations. This is another acknowledgement that asserts His Majesty King Husayn's sound position when he expressed his bitterness toward the U.S. Administration's Middle East policy. This is a serious acknowledgement because it comes from within the White House and from the former adviser of the U.S. National Security Council. Why was the United States surprised by His Majesty King Husayn's statements which aimed at setting out the facts impartially and without exaggeration.

If the U.S. Administration has another concept that differs from its Middle East policy, which has become entirely an Israeli one, we will be the first to welcome such a concept and the last to reject it. The U.S. Administration knows that we accepted President Reagan's initiative while Israel rejected it. The result was the signing of the strategic agreement between Washington and Tel Aviv, and the directing of insults at the moderate Arab countries, Jordan in particular. In U.S. logic, reward does not follow action. This is the U.S. Administration's problem as far as Israel is concerned. In light of these reversed facts, on which the United States based its Middle East policies, we must reassess these policies. It was necessary for His Majesty King Husayn to take such a position before it is too late.

AD-DUSTUR Editorial

JN170940 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 17 Mar 84 pp 1, 25

[Editorial: "The Courageous Position"]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn's important national statement to *THE NEW YORK TIMES* has aroused interests throughout the world due to his courageous, frank, and definite stands on aspects of the U.S. policy in the region, as well the principles which characterize the features and bases of the firm Jordanian stand toward the lame U.S. plans, and consumed calls for peace.

What surprises us is the incorrect and deviate reactions that appeared in the U.S. arena. Those who reacted were surprised at the courageous and frank stand of Jordan under the pretext that Jordan is a friendly country. Those people have forgotten that Jordan's understanding of friendship is based on complete equality, and that we reject any understanding of friendship outside this framework.

His Majesty King Husayn asserted with sincerity, frankness, and courage that Washington has lost its credibility toward the Arabs because of its complete bias toward Israel, and of its continued financial military, and political aid to the entity of aggression.

For many years, the Arabs have seen that the United States, as a superpower disavows its principles and declared commitments, and as a mediator in the Arab-Israeli conflict places its political and financial force at the service of the aggressive party. Consequently, the only thing to do was to announce their despair and bitter rage against these stands and policies which are hostile to the Arabs and their just causes.

Jordan, which has always tried to prevent international polarization in the region, has found that the U.S. policy which appeases Israel, and which includes a strategic alliance with Israel, deepens this polarization and obstructs any efforts aimed at achieving a just solution that to stop the wars and disputes in the region which have been exacerbated due to the U.S. policy that lacks farsightedness and political acumen.

As a result of such U.S. policy, which King Husayn has exposed, we can only believe that the continuation of the Israeli occupation of our territories for more than 17 years is a gain of direct U.S. moral and political support for Israel, especially since we see that U.S. aid to Israel is turning into settlements in the occupied Arab territories which change the features of the land, uproot the people, and threaten us with more aggressions and expansions.

Jordan Views U.S. Criticism of Husayn Interview

U.S. Credibility Lost

JN181250 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 18 Mar 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Is America Listening?"]

[Text] We have heard so many times from the highest levels of the American Government that Jordan is a country whose moderate views are highly respected and deeply valued in America. We have heard that King Husayn is held in great admiration and esteem in Washington. We have heard that Jordan is a key country in the Middle East whose involvement is crucial for a negotiated settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute.

What then, should the American leadership think when it is faced with the strong, Straightforward remarks that King Husayn made a few days ago about America's role in the Middle East? You would think that if Jordan and King Husayn and his country's brand of political moderation are, indeed, so highly valued in America, the remarks of King Husayn would be taken seriously in Washington. You would think that King Husayn's frank assessment of the situation would cause thoughtful Americans to review their country's precise standing in the Arab World. That standing is probably the worst it has been for decades, and the disillusionment that King Husayn has expressed is only the tip of the iceberg. The powerful currents of anti-Americanism in the Arab World are neither new nor surprising, and it has been a rule in recent years that the Arab leaderships tend to express this sentiment in softer terms than it is felt by the masses of Arab people themselves.

Governments and heads of state have responsibilities and concerns on their shoulders that are not always appreciated by the Arab man in the street. Therefore when an Arab leader such as King Husayn — an eminently moderate and reasonable and patient leader, in this case — tells the Americans so frankly that they have lost their credibility as mediators, the message that should get through to Americans is that anti-Americanism throughout the Arab masses is probably three or four times as intense as the declarations of Arab political leaders. For King Husayn to tell the Americans in such blunt terms where they stand in Arab eyes is a service for which the American people and leaders should be grateful, because if the trend of anti-Americanism in the area is not checked soon it will surely lead to actions that will only further polarise the Middle East and make the quest for peace more distant. America's recent experiences in Iran and Lebanon have not been happy ones, and if current trends continue unchanged they will probably be repeated, to the detriment both of America and the brand of moderation this country values.

U.S. Distorts Facts

JN171130 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 17 Mar 84 pp 1, 14

[Editorial: "Courage and Courageous Men"]

[Text] U.S. Reactions to the statements King Husayn made to *THE NEW YORK TIMES* show that the loss of U.S. credibility, values, and principles is not accidental, but represents the nature of U.S. policy in the region. Brzezinski, national security adviser to former President Carter, shares this opinion and says that U.S. policy is based on false bases.

White House Spokesman Larry Speakes did not hesitate to distort facts, and claim that the Arabs are the ones who did not show a desire to move toward peace, as if the Fes plan was not an Arab move toward peace, and the aggressive Israeli practices in the occupied territories,— namely, the establishment of settlements, the aggression against the holy places, the displacement of people, and the organized crimes agaisnt the people -- were moves toward peace.

The only significance of these distortions and this haughtiness is that the U.S. Administration has not only lost credibility, values, and principles, but also sincerity and courage in admitting facts known all over the world.

Larry Speakes did not hesitate to talk about courage when he said that Arab rulers must be courageous if they want to move toward peace.

We wish the White House spokesman would understand that capitulation, which he described as the peace process, does not need courage, but submission to the U.S. Administration's requests, and that this administration will not find one Arab ruler who will relinquish the cause in any form, or want a suspicious and forged description of courage in exchange for disavowing his nation's cause. Any Arab ruler will feel proud if his people describe him as a courageous man. This is in addition to the fact that those who lost credibility, values, and principles are the last people who can talk about courage.

The courageous men are those who do not bargain over credibility, values, and principles, who do not distort facts, who do not support aggressors, and who do not harm their country's reputation in exchange for temporary gains.

This is the courage which Arab people and rulers understand and believe in. The surprise with which U.S. officials reacted to King Husayn's statements is the reaction of those who had been sleeping, and denying what is obvious. Jordan's stand is clear and firm to all. Jordan's stand is clear-sighted and not deceived by

words or attracted by polarization. It is too courageous to be changed or frozen out of courtesy to any foreign ruler, even if he is running after votes. Jordan's stand stems from the Arab higher interests to which it adheres. Why is this a surprise? We loudly say that Jordan has always been and will remain the country of courage and courageous men, leadership, and people. Once again we say to those who have been sleeping and denying what is obvious: no to the mirage, no to deception, and no to courtesy at the expense of the Arab cause.

U.S. Comment 'Surprising'

JN170828 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 17 Mar 84 pp 1, 15

[Editorial: "The Stand and Experiences"]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn's statement to *THE NEW YORK TIMES* has aroused comments and reactions throughout the world. Among these comments is a statement by a U.S. State Department official spokesman in which he expressed his country's regret and astonishment at the criticism in King Husayn's statement.

We are surprised at this U.S. comment because Jordan, which has participated in all international efforts to settle the region's crisis, has always expressed its opinion about the negative effects of U.S. policy on the efforts and the future of the region.

Despite all this, the United States continued with its political behavior, ignoring the effect of this behavior on Arab interests, and especially on Jordan which shoulders a special pan-Arab responsibility toward the dispute which erupted in the June aggression 17 years ago. At the same time, the region is still threatened with new conflagration.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B continues: The Jordanian stand, as King Husayn explained to the U.S. paper, is not the outcome of an accidental crisis with U.S. policy in the region, but the outcome of long experience with the U.S. supported Israeli aggression. U.S. disregard of the Arab stand has reached a point in which the United States has cancelled from its strategic calculations all the Arab stands which reject the Israeli aggression and adhere to the Arab right which Israel seized by force. The United States ignored what happened to the Arabs and behaved as if the Arabs are merely followers.The United States moves as it wishes in its conflict with the USSR. In fact, some U.S. officials gave themselves the right to make statements and explanations about our delicate internal issues.

Jordan knows why it is arming itself, the nature of the danger it face, and the meaning of the U.S.-Israeli strategic agreement even before it was declared. Jordan and the Arabs have become fed up with the situation in which the United States gives Israel more aid after every election campaign and after every presidential era. All this is at the expense of the Arabs, their interests, and their dignity.

If the nature of the Zionist-U.S. relationship has created this Israeli influence inside the U.S. political institutions, it is natural that this situation will arouse the Arab world, aggrieved by U.S. arms, money, and international prestige which have been placed at the service of the Israeli aggression. The argument taking place in the U.S. Congress on moving the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem is a repetition of previous discussions through which Israel has always succeeded in achieving gains, and adding U.S. services to Israel's aggressive policy and defiance of the Arabs and the entire world represented by the United Nations and its charter.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B concludes: The United States must know that the Arabs will reply to the blow dealt to them with a similar blow,regardless of its source.

'Reality' of U.S. Stance Shown

JN180943 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 18 Mar 84 p 1

[Editorial: "Husayn's Statements and the Reality of U.S. Positions"]

[Text] Throughout the years of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the only considerations that the Arabs had for relations with the United States and for continuing contacts with it over this conflict,were the possibility that the United States as a superpower and as the side providing Israel with the means of existence, would put pressure on the Zionist entity to limit its expansionist ambitions and recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to their land — hence building the bases for an honorable and just peace that would help this region avert the continued evils of war and destruction.

This deceptive hope by the Arab nation that the United States would assume its responsibilities as a superpower and take a balanced position on the conflict, in reality no longer exists: The United States has chosen to stand by Israel and align itself strategically with it in order to strike at the Arabs and their aspirations for liberation and independance.

The Israeli aggression against Lebanon, the continued Israeli occupation of Lebanese territories, the continued building of Jewish settlements in the occupied lands, and the employment of the ugliest means of oppression and terror against our citizens there, have all exposed the reality of the U.S. position and made the Arabs — officials and people — absolutely convinced that the United States, which is in alliance with their principal enemy, cannot in any way be a mediator. The partner in aggression cannot claim to be seeking a just peace that guarantees the rights of the sides to the conflict.

This is why the Arabs lost faith in the U.S. positions. Their hopes that the White House leaders would abandon their double-standard and ambiguous policies have been dissipated. The declared U.S. principles no longer mean anything for the Americans because real principles cannot fall or disappear in the face of narrow electoral interests, which is what President Reagan has allowed to happen during the U.S. presidential election year.

This is why Husayn's latest statements on Washington's positions on the conflict constitute a clear interpretation of the U.S. policy

throughout the years of the Arab-Israel conflict and express the reality of these positions.

Foreign Minister Views Reagan Plan, Arab Issues

PM1714 8 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 16 Mar 84 p 1,2

[Interview with Foreign Minister Tahir Al-Masri by Qasim as-Samawi in Baghdad — date not given]

[Text] Another surprising Jordanian attitude toward proposals to resolve the Middle East crisis emerged yesterday in the midst of increasing evidence of Jordan's dismay with the U.S. attitude 1 month after King Husayn's visit to the United States and his meeting with President Ronald Reagan.

Replying to a question regarding Jordan's present attitude toward Reagan's initiative, which it supported when it was first announced in September 1982, Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri said: The Reagan initiative is dead; the United States itself killed it by aiding Israel.

With regard to the Fes Arab peace plan, it needs a mechanism to implement it. It is not enough to declare resolutions that we cannot put into effect, particularly in a matter of destiny such as the Palestinian problem, after numerous resolutions and peace plans have emerged in the international arena.

Al-Masri added: "The mecahnism of implementation is something basic that we lack. We have insisted on this mechanism and continuously drawn our brother's attention to this effect."

Speaking about progress in the Jordanian-Palestinian talks, the Jordanian minister said: "As you know, Mr Yasir 'Arafat came to Amman and met with His Majesty King Husayn and Jordanian officials. The talks were held in a cordial spirit. They were a general review of the situation in the Arab and international arena with regard to the Palestinian problem and to what our kinfolk in the West Bank are suffering from as a result of Israel action. Neither side was then required to discuss any specific issues; rather, it was a general review of the situation. We have agreed to continue the dialogue in the future in a detailed manner — I mean the future relations between Jordan and the PLO which was the central point of discussion."

He added: "During the talks, both sides had on their mind the need to expedite reaching a formula that would spare our people difficulties and enable us to confront the Israeli plans that are far ahead of us because of lack of movement on our side and their [the PLO's]side. We had complete understanding in this regard."

Replying to a question about Jordanian-Syrian relations at present and in the future, Al-Masri said: The relations are not as we desire them to be or as they should be between two neighboring sisterly countries joined by common ties and history. We wish and have always wished our relations with our Arab brothers to be the best. Where Syria or any other Arab country is concerned we always strive to improve relations with them, to respect the principle of noninterference in others' affairs, and to always give priority to our Arab problems.

Regarding relations with Egypt under President Husni Mubarak, Al-Masri said: "Our relations are good and our views are very close on many issues. Contacts between us are continuing. We believe in Egypt's Arab weight and the need for its return to the Arab ranks because of our need for it and its need for us. We hope that this day will come soon. Until that day comes we will continue to develop our relations with Egypt as long as it pursues this line."

He added: "There is a standing invitation to President Mubarak [to visit Jordan] which King Husayn extended more than a year ago at the New Delhi nonaligned conference. This invitation still stands and we would like to welcome President Mubarak but no date has yet been fixed for this visit."

Regarding the outcome of the extraordinary Arab foreign ministers conference which concluded its meetings in Baghdad on Wednesday night, Al-Masri said: "We call for an Arab summit and we would like the Arab leaders to meet for many well-known reasons. We are sorry that this summit will not convene in Riyadh at the end of the month as was scheduled because, as we were told, of the present Arab circumstances. At the foreign ministers conference we did not discuss convening an Arab summit. There was only one single topic on the agenda of this conference, which was the Iraq-Iran war. But an Arab summit is on everyone's mind. Sisterly Iraq has been able to bring together the Arab foreign ministers in an extraordinary meeting to discuss a specific subject. We hope to meet in the near future in order to fix a date for an Arab summit."

Regarding the talks he had with Saudi Foreign Minister Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal, the Jordanian minister said: The purpose of our meeting was to discuss the single topic, which is the Iraq-Iran war. But, as you know, our relations with sisterly Saudi Arabia are close and we constantly coordinate with it.

In Conclusion, the Jordanian minister praised the conference's ouctome. He said: "I am satisfied with the results because everyone is aware of the danger threatening sisterly Iraq. Everyone expressed full support for the Iraqi stand and showed pride in Iraq's steadfastness and heroism. A committee has been set up to work out a mechanism to end the Iraq-Iran war, something that we always lacked at our previous conferences. We adopted a resolution but did not work out a mechanism for its implementation. This is probably the first time that we have done so. We pray to God that this resolution, which was adopted in a fully serious manner, that the future committee meetings will herald the beginning of an Arab action that will restore credibility to our Arab resolutions in the international arena and before our Arab peoples."

UN's Brian Urquhart Meets With Top Officials

Received by Al-Masri

JN171516 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Amman, 17 Mar (PETRA) — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri received in his office this morning Brian Urquhart, UN assistant secretary general for political affairs, who is currently

visiting Jordan. During the meeting they reviewed the latest developments in the Middle East situation and the Palestine question, the deteriorating situation in the occupied Arab territories, and the need for the Security Council to assume its responsibilities in this regard.

The two sides also stressed the need for action in order to find a just and lasting peace in the Middle East based on UN resolutions, especially Resolution No 242, which stresses the inadmissibility of a forcible seizure of other people's lands and calls for a full Israeli withdrawal from the territories that were occupied in 1967.

The two sides also stressed the importance of intensifying UN efforts and the efforts of other countries to help find a solution to this question, which is sensitive and important to world peace, and to rule out any attempt to deal with that question within the framework of world conflict and differences between the East and the West . Attending the meeting were the Foreign Ministry secretary general and the director of Urquhart's office.

Meets King Husayn

JN181518 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Amman —His Majesty King Husayn received at An-Nadwah Palace this afternoon Brian Urquhart, UN assistant secretary general for political affairs. Attending the meeting were the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the court minister, and the foreign minister.

Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi today received Brian Urquhart, UN assistant secretary general for political affairs, in the presence of Zayd ar-Rifa'i, second deputy senate president.

Al-Lawzi stressed the United Nations' role in settling the Palestinian question by virtue of its responsibility for safeguarding human rights, maintaining peace, and putting an end to the continued Israeli aggression against the Arabs in the occupied territories, and to the continuous dangers against the region's peace and security.

Al-Lawzi also explained Jordan's stand which is based on the commitment to the resolutions of the United Nations and the UN Security Council —resolutions that support the Arab rights, foremost being UN Security Council Resolution 242 which is based on the impermissibility of occupying other states' lands by force. Al-Lawzi warned against the continuation of the international silence and impotence toward the actions of Israel and the terrorist Zionist organizations in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and their continuous aggressions against citizens, sanctities, properties, and scientific institutions.

Al-Lawzi pointed out that Israel's continuation of establishing settlements, judaizing the occupied Arab territories, and expelling their citizens constitutes a challenge to the international organizations, kills any hope of achieving a just peaceful solution, and exposes the region to more dangers.

Reportage on Kidnapped U.S. Diplomat Buckley

Search Continues

JN161741 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] U.S. diplomat William Buckley was leaving his house in the Ra's Beirut area heading to work when armed elements, who are still unidentified, kidnapped him and took him to an unknown place. Buckley's fate is still unknown at this time. Lebanese security organs and the organs of the Amal Movement and the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] are actively looking for him. Information received here is that the kidnappers moved Buckley out of Beirut, perhaps to southern Lebanon.

It is worth noting that the PSP, which controls West Beirut jointly with the Amal Movement, declared before noon today that it received a call from the U.S. Embassy in Beirut concerning Buckley and that it promised to exert every possible effort to find him. The Amal Movement spokesman affirmed that the movement has not the slightest bit of information about the incident or the fate of the U.S. diplomat.

U.S. Spokesman Cited

NC171011 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] U.S. Embassy officials said today that they have no indications where U.S. diplomat William Buckley is being held, or who kidnapped him. An embassy spokesman said: We have no information at all, no one has contacted us, and no one has demanded anything from us. No party has announced its responsibility for the kidnapping. Three gunmen in a car kidnapped Buckley outside his house in Beirut yesterday.

Responsibility for Kidnapping Determined

NC171653 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Security sources have stressed that William Buckley, third secretary at the U.S. Embassy in Lebanon, who was kidnapped outside his house in Ra's Beirut yesterday morning, has been transferred outside Beirut. The sources said that it is now possible to pinpoint those responsible for the kidnapping. Political contacts are being held with them to release the U.S. diplomat.

Reportage on National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne

16 Mar: Agreement on Reforms

NC162132 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] In a dispatch from Lausanne a short while ago, AFP reported that the committees stemming from the dialogue conference have reached an agreement on a number of recommendations. It quoted a member of the presidential delegation, which it did not name, as saying that all issues connected with security, the reopening of the crossing points, the return of displaced persons, and the reorganization of daily life have been initially resolved although the method for enforcing these things has not been defined.

Regarding political reforms, the presidential delegation member added, an agreement has been reached on about 12 points, foremost an equal split of the seats between [Christian and Muslim] deputies. As for the principle of decentralization in the administrative apparatus, there are still divergent views. The principle of sectarianism in the system of assigning public posts has been set aside because of differences over the distribution of key posts.

The agency's official member [as heard] said that it has been agreed that the Chamber of Deputies will appoint the prime minister. It has also been agreed to form a supreme justice court to try the prime ministers and ministers. It has been reported that 13 points of the reform plan have been referred to the heads of delegations to settle them at the meeting of the general committee tomorrow, Saturday.

Further on Reforms

NC161958 Paris AFP in English 1945 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Lausanne, Switzerland, March 16 (AFP) — A commission set up by the Lebanese reconciliation conference to draft a long-term political structure today agreed that seats in the National Assembly should be split half-and-half by Moslems and Christians, conference sources said. The panel delegates also agreed on a formula for the National Assembly, instead of the president, to select the prime minister. These and about 10 other agreements are to be submitted to the delegation chiefs tomorrow in a plenary session. The eight delegation chiefs stayed away from the conference today in observation of the sixth anniversary of the killing of Druze leader Kamal Junblatt, father of Walid Junblatt, president of the Progressive Socialist Party.

The sources said most security issues aimed at bringing back normalcy to Beirut, including the reopening of roads and the return of displaced persons, have been settled by a second commission, although their enforcement has not.

Lebanese Spokesman Michel Samahah said a final document on political reform could be adopted as early as tomorrow, but some delegates kept their reservations at the lakeside "Beau Rivage" hotel until Tuesday. No official date for the end of the conference has been announced.

Other points of agreement were the principle of administrative decentralization and an end to the assigning of government posts according to religious affiliation, although disagreements lingered on whether to apply this to high officials.

The chief delegates tomorrow will also decide on another 13 propositions which failed to garner agreement at the commission level. Syrian vice-President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam took the day off today for a visit in the Swiss countryside with his wife. Observers took this to mean that the negotiations were going well.

Al-Jumayyil Phones King Fahd

NC162052 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Informed sources expect the working committees stemming from the dialogue conference to complete their work tomorrow and submit the results to the conference ad its sixth session tomorrow, Saturday. The various committees continued their meetings and studied the various working papers to prepare a joint working paper.

Syrian First Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Saudi Minister Muhammad Ibrahim al-Mas'ud left Lausanne for Geneva today. They will return tomorrow.

AFP reports tonight that President Amin al-Jumayyil telephoned Saudi King Fahd from Lausanne tonight and that they discussed the activities of the National Dialogue Conference. AFP added that King Fahd expressed his wishes for the success of the conference and the restoration of calm and stability to Lebanon. The king expressed Saudi Arabia's readiness to help rebuild Lebanon.

AFP further said that the damage done by the fighting in Beirut in recent months amounts to 10 billion Lebanese liras.

Points of Contention 17 Mar

NC171140 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Information from Lausanne states that the dialogue conference might not conclude its work today, as had been expected. Sources deem it likely that the conference will wind up its work within the next 2 days. At today's session, which is to follow a meeting that might be convened between President al-Jumayyil and Mr 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the points — contained in the new historic document — will be debated.

These points can be summed up as follows:

— Lebanon is a republican, parliamentary state and it is the homeland of all the Lebanese.
— Representation of the principal communities in the [state] institutions and confirmation of the three presidencies [of the republic, Council of Ministers, and Chamber of Deputies] for the communities that have been assuming these presidencies since 1943.
— Abolition of the tradition to hold public office on the grounds of communal affiliation.
— Striking a balance among the communities in effectuating appointments to first class posts.
— Removing religion from identity cards.
— Extending the term of the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies to 2 years.
— Effecting the system of a two-third majority for the endorsement of crucial matters at the Chamber of Deputies as well as a 55 percent ratio for the election of the president of the republic at the sessions that follow the first [election] session.
— Increasing the number of deputies, the application of the principle of equally sharing the number of seats, and increasing the number of districts [muhafazat].
— Nominating the prime minister [tasmiyatu ra'is al-wuzara'] at the Chamber of Deputies. The same proportion used in the election of the president of the republic to be in effect at [cabinet] confidence vote sessions.
— The term of the prime minister shall be limited to 18 months, barring resignations or solicited resignations, or in instances where confidence is withheld.
— Deputy prime ministers to be appointed.
— Establishing a constitutional court to oversee the constitutionality of laws.
— Establishing an economic-social-educational council.
— Reinforcing the expanded political centralization and the expanded administrative decentralization.
— Developing the areas in accordance with the principle of equal opportunity and the reconstruction of the areas that have suffered losses along with the return of the evacuees to their homes.

Hamadah Discusses PSP Approach

NC171333 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Former Minister Marwan Hamadah said the following to the Voice of the Mountain radio during a telephone contact in Lausanne:

We are trying to bring about the success of the conference. However, we insist upon establishing a future Lebanon and not on perpetuating a Lebanon of the Middle Ages. We have stressed the need to abolish political sectarianism while maintaining a sectarian representation in a Senate that will decide on fateful issues and will serve as a barrier against the domination of one group over the other. It is clear that the abolition of sectarianism must include the Army and jobs on all levels in the state, in independent enterprises, and in public and mixed institutions connected with the state.

Minister Hamadah announced that the morning session was postponed until the afternoon in order to enable bilateral contacts to overcome obstacles that have emerged concerning the working paper Mr Amin Al-Jumayyil intended to submit this morning. It has been leaked to many delegations that this paper does not fulfill the desired objective; therefore, it has been decided, following contacts last night, to give the opportunity for further consultations. During these consultations, the National Salvation front, and particularly the Progressive Socialist Party and the Amal Movement, will underline their principled positions regarding changes in the political system and consolidation of democracy.

Differences Cause Session Delay

NC171344 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The Lausanne conference session scheduled to be held around noon today has been postponed until 1800 to provide an opportunity for more consultations following the emergence of new difficulties, which could according to observers torpedo the conference and abort the efforts exerted by the mediators, par-

ticularly by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and the Saudi delegation, to bring views closer and approve a working paper that would deal with the political reforms, the situation in the south, and with the institutions and Army.

In his latest contact with us approximately 30 minutes ago, our correspondent in Lausanne pointed out that there was a sharp difference among former President Sulayman Franjiyah and Pierre al-Jumayyil and the Phalangist leadership today. Franjiyah insisted on condemning the suicidal course pursued by the Phalangists in cooperation with Israel. Franjiyah's sources stressed that there is no way for reaching an understanding with a party that has sold itself to the devil and that insists on partitioning Lebanon and tearing up its land and people under slogans of federation and administrative decentralization, and so on.

The radio correspondent added that the two most significant points, which are still subjects of disagreement, are the question of the abolition of political secterianism and the status of the Army. Regarding the first point, it has transpired that the rejection by the Lebanese Front and by Amin al-Jumayyil of the national proposals on abolishing political sectarianism could (?obstruct) the efforts to reach a solution and make the country embarkon a vicious circle.

More on Differences

NC171600 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Informed sources in Lausanne said that the disagreement among the interlocuters is continuing because of the insistence of Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt on abolishing political sectarianism and establishing a Senate. This would change the communal equations in Lebanon and permit the majority community to have most of the posts and seats at the expense of the equal rights formula. This led to a Sunnite-Shi'ite disagreement among Sa'ib Salam, Rashid Karami, and Walid Junblatt. The observers and mediators are trying to limit the consequences of this disagreement. The Lebanese Front has rejected Nabih Birri's proposals and has adhered to general secularization. Pierre al-Jumayyil, the Pnalangist Party leader, referred to some positive results by sayingthey are still insufficient. We will seek to achieve more positive results, otherwise nothing more will happen. The Phalangist leader emphasized that they will continue to stand fast and confront all dangers as they did in the past years to safeguard Lebanon and its freedom and dignity. Former President Camille Sham'un assured the Christians in Lebanon that the Lebanese Front shares their worries and concerns and that it is ready to defend Lebanon — all Lebanon — as we have proved in the past and will prove in the future.

Beirut on Reason For Delay

NC171030 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] The National Dialogue Conference session scheduled to be held to day at 1100 Beirut time in Lausanne to approve and read the conference's final statement has been postponed until 1700 today. The Information Ministry mission in Lausanne informed us that the reason for the postponement is to enable the Political Reforms Committee and the Administrative Reforms Committee to resolve some points on which no final agreement has been reached with a view to arriving at the final draft of the unified working paper which will be included in the text of the final sdatement.

Al-Jumayil Meets Khaddam

NC171019 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0939 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Report by Voice of Lebanon radio correspondents from Lausanne — live]

[Excerpt] The National Dialogue Conference session scheduled to begin at 1000 Lausanne time. 1100 Beirut time, has been postponed due to some differences of opinion over the provisions of the working paper which was to be discussed today. Meanwhile, the republic's president has been meeting with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam since approximately 1100. The purpose of the meeting is to reach an understanding on the reform topics submitted for discussion. It is possible that the session may be postponed until 1700 Lausanne time, today.

17 March Evening Session

NC172036 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] The sixth session of the National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne is still in progress in search of common denominators for an agreement on political reforms. The session began at 1715 tonight. The discussions and deliberations are centered on the working paper President al-Jumayyil handed to the conferees before the start of the session. The paper contains the gist of the proposals submitted by the delegation heads for the reform of the Lebanese political system.It is likely that the discussions will take more than one session because of the difficulty in reaching an agreement so far, as reports say, despite the good offices being used at the conference's halls and the contacts with some capitals.

The Security Arrangements Committee was unable to meet today because of the deterioration of the security situation along the contact lines and the shelling of areas in West Beirut and the southern suburb.

Reports on the Lausanne conference indicate that formerprime Minister Sa'ib Salam raised the question of the security deterioration and the shelling of the residential areas of West Beirut as soon as the session started tonight. He called for abidance by the cease-fire.

Following this discussion, which also dealt with the statements by Fu'ad Abu Nadir on dealings with Israel, President al-Jumayyil asked the delegations and advisers to leave the hall, leaving only the delegation heads. President al-Jumayyil then presented a working paper to the conference which represented

the gist of the working papers submitted by the various parties.

Understanding on Main Stumbling Blocks
NC172219 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2142 GMT17 Mar 84

[Telephone dispatch from the Radio Free Lebanon mission in Lausanne, Switzerland — live]

[Text] The evening session of the national dialogue conference ended about 5 minutes ago. It was confined to the delegation heads and attended by the Syrian vice president and the Saudi minister. Former President Sham'un left the hall for a few minutes during the session. He said that the atmosphere was positive and that the session might end soon. He said an understanding was reached on the points that are the main stumbling block confronting the conferees. They include the question of abolishing political sectarianism.

President al-Jumayyil opened the session by concentrating on the security deterioration in Beirut. He said: The people in Lebanon are in one valley and we are in another valley. What is required is a comprehensive cease-fire and quickly adopting resolutions at the conference so that all of us may return to Lebanon as soon as possible to participate in ending the fighting in Lebanon. The president was told that a cease-fire came into effect tonight, and he informed the conferees.

Former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam then spoke, concentrating on the media. He considered the media (?more dangerous) than the shells because it has the same effect as the gun. He demanded an end to the question of the factional radios.

President al-Jumayyil said at this point: We are discussing rather important reports in this hall. Some delegation heads leak them (?to the media), disregarding the secrecy of the sessions [words indistinct].

Former Prime Minister Karami asked if the Army participated in the shelling during today's battles. President al-Jumayyil said it did not.

Pierre al-Jumayyil said: A deterrent force must be deployed on the contact lines to separate the combatants. Salam asked about the type of the deterrent force he considers suitable to carry out this task.

President al-Jumayyil then closed the discussion of these questions. Syrian Vice president 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam suggested that the session be confined to the delegation heads, without giving a reason. The delegates then left. The working paper President al-Jumayyil derived from the plans and proposals submitted by the various parties was then distributed.

Sham'un: No Decisions Reached
NC172130 Paris AFP in English 2126 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Lausanne, Switzerland, March 17 (AFP) — The Lebanese national reconciliation conference ended a crucial plenary session here late today but delegates would not comment on progress. A Lebanese presidential spokesman said that a further plenary session had been fixed for tomorrow morning at 10:00 a.m. Camille Sham'un, leader of the Lebanese Front grouping of Christian parties, said after the meeting which ended at 10:00 p.m. (2100 GMT): "We did not decide anything, we just discussed."

Damascus on Khaddam-al-Jumayyil Meeting
JN171403 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Lausanne — At 0930 today, a meeting was held between Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. During the meeting, which lasted 90 minutes, they discussed subjects presented at the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference. At 1330 today, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received at his suite in the Beaurivage Hotel in Lausanne Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt, and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri. During the meeting, the diccussed subjects presented at the Lebanese national dialogue conference.

Al-Jumayyil Submits Working Paper
NC172209 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Dispatch by Phalangist military radio's mission to Lausanne — recorded]

[Text] The meeting between delegation leaders is still in progress. President Amin al-Jumayyil is chairing the meeting which is also attended by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Saudi Minister of State Muhammad Ibrahim al-Mas'ud. President al-Jumayyil has submitted the working paper for discussion. This paper include 22 points which stress liberties and democracy, callsfor avoiding sectarian rivalries, and endorses the parliamentary democratic system. The measures suggested to ameliorate the system are mainly based on the Constitution.

The paper includes the following:

1. The deputies will be split between Christians and Muslims at a ratio of 50 percent.
2. There will be equal rights for all communities. There will be new chief and deputy chief posts. The empty deputy seats will be filled [word indistinct] in order to bring about balance.
3. A supreme court will be established to try the chief officials and the ministers.
4. Army laws will be reviewed.
5. Broader powers will be given to the internal security forces.
6. Legislative and executive authorities will undergo some rearrangement. Accordingly, the term for the Chamber of Deputies will be 4 years and the term for the president and his office staff will be 2 years.

7. The current administrative system will be amended.
8. Administrative decentralization will be adopted in order to create new provincial councils.
9. A nationality law will be promulgated.
10. New election laws will be passed in accordance with the new administrative system.

One of the difficult issues raised concerns the nomination of the prime minister by the Parliamentary Council. The prime minister will hold consultations with Parliament. He will report the names of the proposed ministers to the president in order to issue a decree for the government's formation.

There is also the issue of abolishing political factionalism. In addition, there are issues concerning a federal republic of Lebanon and overall secularism.

Some of these issues call for amending the Constitution.

18 March Morning Session

NC181304 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The seventh session of the Lausanne conference convened at approximately 1100 today. The delegation heads and the Syrian and Saudi envoys attended the meeting. The meeting will discuss the working paper submitted by Mr Amin al-Jumayyil, which he regarded as a summary of the various working papers. Half an hour after the opening of the session, Nabih Birri left the hall and did not return to it until 1225 accompanied by former President Sulayman Franjiyah and Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Although the reason which prompted Birri to leave the hall is unknown, there are indications that it may be the absence of national and popular reforms in Amin al-Jumayyil's paper and the insistence of the Lebanese Front and the regime that the conference consolidate the political privileges of the Maronites, which the regime has monopolized with the consent of the leaders of the Lebanese Front and their representatives and followers.

More on Morning Session

NC181614 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1517 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Telephone dispatch by Voice of Lebanon team from Lausanne, Switzerland — live]

[Text] The subject pending from this morning's session, and which will be discussed at this afternoon's session — set for 1700 — is the demand being made by Nabih Birri. This demand can be summed up as the abolition of political sectarianism and as regarding Lebanon as one electoral constituency.

A bilateral meeting took place prior to the morning session between former President Sulayman Franjiyah and Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The meeting was intended to take the subject of the abolition of political sectarianism out of the give-and-take phase on the basis of a proposal that would effectuate the abilition of sectarianism following the first round of parliamentary elections. It has been learned that President Franjiyah has categorically refused to accept this principle.

In light of these developments, the morning session was characterized by some hardline stances, which prompted the conferees to move to security topics while waiting for the subject of sectarianism to be submitted to the evening session.

Therefore, the discussion at the session that will be held within an hour will center on the abolition of political sectarianism. However, all the heads of delegation stand opposed to this subject, although there are overt and covert stances. At the session, former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam submitted a proposal that would bar the limitation of the prime minister's jurisdictions, particularly through the appointment of deputy prime ministers.

Our team has learned that if today's session does not manage to sidestep Birri's demand, peripheral contacts and meetings are expected to continue at night, and the sessions are expected to be resumed tomorrow. The meeting that will be held tonight between the Syrian vice president and President Sulayman Franjiyah during dinner will afford an opportunity for finding ways to ensure a better atmosphere for tomorrow's session.

Details of Session

NC181244 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The National Dialogue Conference began its seventh session in Lausanne at 1215 today. Reports say that the hour of decision for the conference is drawing near. The nine leaders held a meeting behind closed doors to continue the progress which Dr Wadi' Haddad said they had achieved in yesterday's 5-hour session. Lausanne reports said that the 1 and 1/4 hour delay in today's session was due to Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's meeting with former President Sulayman Franjiyah in order to settle some differences among the conferees. Sources of the conferees said that discussion on constitutional and reform matters continued all night last night after the end of the official session, which lasted 5 hours as we already said.

It has been learned that the Syrian mediator, who worked vigorously in lateral meetings, threatened that he might end his mediation between the two sides unless they narrowed the gap between their positions. President Amin al-Jumayyil intervened to persuade Mr Khaddam to continue his mediation efforts.

Like yesterday's session, today's session was confined to delegation heads. They were joined by the Syrian and Saudi observers, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Saudi State Minister Muhammad Ibrahim al-Mas'ud. The two worked in lateral meetings to narrow the differences on the most controversial subjects — the abolition of political sectarianism and security measures to ensure Israel's withdrawal from the south. The conference members maintained complete silence about the results of yesterday's session. Delegation members remained outside the conference hall. Dr Wadi' Haddad, presidential adviser for national affairs, said that yesterday's session made great progress. Michel Samahah, a member of the presidential delegation, said that the conference is expected to end today with

the announcement of an agreement on the reform program.

Western news agencies report from Lausanne that Syrian Vice President Khaddam is using his influence and his extensive experience during the decisive hours of the conference. He showed a desire to make the conference succeed at any price.

Morning Session Ends

NC181407 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1337 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Radio of Independent Nasirite Movement Al-Murabitun — direct dispatch by radio information team from Lausanne]

[Text] At around 1415 Lausanne time, corresponding to 1515 Beirut time, today's session of the National Dialogue Conference concluded. The discussion centered on the working paper which reportedly consisted of ideas forwarded by President Amin al-Jumayyil.

At this time nothing has leaked about the minutes of the session. However, the discussion was apparently very hot in light of the continuing and existing contradictions, particularly regarding the Lebanese Front's adherence to its position on abolishing sectarianism in politics.

Today's second session will convene at around 1700, Lausanne time, today. The sessions are likely to continue into tomorrow, too.

A little while ago, Nabih Birri emerged for lunch with former President Franjiyah at his place of residence, that is, the house of 'Isam Faris. Walid Junblatt emerged, too, from a situation which suggested that no tangible progress has been made at this time.

Sham'un Says Progress Made

NC181429 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] At 1510 today, the session of the National Dialogue Conference ended in Lausanne. The session had begun at 1415. The members of the dialogue committee will meet again at 1800 to discuss points on which they have been unable to agree during meetings held yesterday and today — meetings which lasted 8 hours. Since yesterday, meetings have been confined to the nine delegation heads and to the two Syrian and Saudi mediators, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Minister of State Muhammad Ibrahim al-Mas'ud.

Sources of our delegation in Lausanne say that the atmosphere of the meetings is positive. They add it is possible that the conferees will announce the provisions on which they have agreed in the course of this evening's session, or, at the latest tomorrow morning.

Within this context, and at the end of the meeting, former President Camille Sham'un was asked whether progress had been achieved. He answered: Let us say yes, we have made progress. When newsmen insisted on elaboration, he said: We have agreed on four points, and one point remains. However, he refused to go into details. Responding to a question, Walid Junblatt said that he will make a statement to newsmen this evening.

18 March Evening Session Ends

NC181650 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1640 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] The eight session of the National Dialogue Conference, which began at 1815 tonight in Lausanne, was adjourned 5 minutes ago; that is, at 1835. It was decided to hold peripheral bilateral consultations to prepare for the convocation of tomorrow's session.

18 Mar Bilateral Meetings

NC182100 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] The latest reports from Lausanne say that the ninth session of the National Dialogue Conference was not held tonight. The evening session, that is,the eighth session which was held at 1815, lasted only 20 minutes, and it was followed by peripheral consultations and meetings between the delegation heads. Within this context, a meeting was held this evening between President Amin al-Jumayyil, former President Sulayman Franjiyah, President Camille Sham'un, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, and Saudi Minister of State Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud. The meeting lasted until 2045, when President Franjiyah left the Beau Rivage Hotel for his residence.

President al-Jumayyil then met with Khaddam, Mas'ud, President Camille Sham'un, and Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil.

Khaddam and Mas'ud are scheduled to meet tonight with former Prime Ministers Rashid Karami and Sa'ib Salam and with Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt.

As part of the meetings that are being held between the delegation heads, two other meetings were held this evening. The first was attended by Nabih Birri, Walid Junblatt, and Prime Ministers Karami and Salam. The second meeting included former Speaker 'Adil 'Usayran and Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil. Reports from Lausanne say the consultations between Birri and Junblatt have resulted in an agreement on a joint working paper that will be submitted to the conference.

Conference sources say it is likely that the ninth session will be postponed until tomorrow morning to provide the conferees with the opportunity to hold more consultations and contacts on the subjects under discussion.

The discussion at the morning session centered on the subjects contained in the political working paper, particularly the abolition of political sectarianism, which still figures as a theme for discussions and on which the opposition is insisting. Although the discussion of the prime minister's jurisdictions and of administra-

tive decentralization has not been completed yet, the conferees approved of these points unanimously within the framework of strong political centralization. They also endorsed the establishment of a constitutional court, as well as endorsing the legitimate national resistance in the south.

19 Mar Bilateral Meetings

NC191022 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] The session of the National Dialogue Conference, which was scheduled to convene at 1100 today, has not yet convened. Meanwhile, bilateral meetings are continuing among the leaders. Consultations and meetings are being conducted by President Amin al-Jumayyil, Syrian observer 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Saudi observer Shaykh Muhammad Ibrahim al-Mas'ud, and Saudi Mediator Rafiq al-Hariri. After these contacts, a time will be set for convening the conference's ninth session.

Lausanne Political Figures Interview on Lebanon

Al-Jumayyil Interview 16 Mar

JN161951 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1744 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Interview with President Amin al-Jumayyil by Antoine Nawfal, Radio Monte Carlo news director, in Lausanne on 16 March, carried within the "It Happened Tomorrow" program — recorded]

[Text][Nawfal] Allow me, Your Excellency, to thank you for this interview you are giving to Radio Monte Carlo.

[Al-Jumayyil] You are welcome.

[Nawfal] In the first moments of the Lausanne conference, Your Excellency expressed the hope that this meeting would be an end to the march of blood and tears, and the beginning of a new era for a new Lebanon. Now that the conference has reached a decisive stage, what has been achieved and what has not? Has this hope exceeded its limits and begun to be practically translated here through negotiations, and in Lebanon on the ground?

[Al-Jumayyil] The first stage of the conference was — allow me to use the expression — a stage of letting off steam. Everyone said what he had to say. The first 2 days were an occasion to say everything. Every conferee said all that he wanted to say. It is true that the discussions were clamorous, but at the same time there was much objectivity and there were many serious ideas worthy of consideration. Now that we have finished the first stage, which is the stage of presenting papers and defending them, we are now in the process of preparing the recommendations or discussing all proposals for the sake of presenting a working paper that is acceptable to all conferees. Of course, I do not say that this paper will be adopted as it is. After the conferees had presented their papers and proposals there was a need to present a paper on the gist of these proposals and what can be considered a common denominator among all sides, parties, and factions. We hope that the paper we are preparing will be adopted as a working paper and will facilitate the conferees' discussions in order to reach the aspired solution as represented in creating a new Lebanon on the basis of justice and equality — a Lebanon that offers reassurance to all its people. Through developed institutions, Lebanon can ensure a safe future for all the Lebanese and can help them avoid the turmoil to which they are exposed at various times at the expense of their lives, sustenance, and security in their homeland.

[Nawfal] Your Excellency, the question all are posing and seeking to solve is: What comes after the Arab option, what comes after the Syrian option, what comes after the abrogation of the agreement, what about Israel, and has wagering on the United States ended for ever? We ask this question because Lebanon will need someone who can perhaps influence Israel.

[Al-Jumayyil] Allow me to say that this argument is unacceptable. We are not considering any foreign options. Amin Al-Jumayyil believes in only one option, the Lebanese option. We only believe in the Lebanese option which alone will ensure the future of all Lebanese. This Lebanese wagering or wagering on the Lebanese is a wagering on an independent and sovereign Lebanon that is in full solidarity with its Arab brothers. All of us have joint aspirations and principles. This wagering, on which Lebanon has been brought up since old times is still guiding our steps because it is the only one that can serve the homeland and the Lebanese.

Regarding Syria, Syria is a sister country that is close to us. I have always belived that if your neighbor is all right, then you are all right. It is essential to establish distinguished relations between Lebanon and Syria based on respect of sovereignty and independence, relations based on equal terms between Lebanon and Syria. During my meeting with President al-Asad we reached an understanding on the bases we have to adopt regarding Lebanese- Syrian relations. I am very reassured about President al-Asad's intentions and sincerity. We depend on his help in these critical circumstances for the sake of rescuing Lebanon from the tragedy with which it has been afflicted for several years.

Regarding the United States, the United States is an old friend of Lebanon and Lebanon adheres to this friendship. If there has been a setback, it is a temporary one, so long as Lebanon continues to exist and this is the main thing.

Regarding Israel, as we said in the decision on the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, we are working at the same time to establish a security zone in the south which will guarantee security for Lebanon and prevent southern Lebanon from becoming a base for any danger to its neighbors. We are ready to carry out security arrangements in southern Lebanon in order to deliver it and to facilitate the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanese territory as quickly as possible and, consequently, to deliver this area from any non-Lebanese presence. This step will contribute to establishing Lebanese sovereignty, through the legitimate Lebanese forces only, in all the Lebanese territories.

[Nawfal] Mr President, can France play a role due to its relations with all the region's states?

[Al-Jumayyil] France certainly has an essential role in Lebanon and in the region. There are several ties that link Lebanon to France. France has a long history in Lebanon. It has friends in Lebanon and Lebanon also has friends in France, beginning with the relations between me and President Mitterrand. We hope that these cordial, sincere, and friendly relations between Lebanon and France will continue, because during the current phase Lebanon needs to mobilize all the forces of its friends, beginning with France, in order to proceed along the march of peace which we hope to commence at the end of the Lausanne meeting.

[Nawfal] Mr. President, have you felt a full readiness by the brotherly and friendly Arab countries to help Lebanon in carrying the burdens with which Lebanon will be toiling?

[Al-Jumayyil] During the past period, I felt that most of the Arab countries were really ready to help; particularly Syria and President al-Asad. I would like also to note the pioneering role played by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, who is represented in this conference by Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud in his capacity as an observer. Also during this conference, I felt real Saudi support to help Lebanon in the present critical crisis. I should mention here that this conference was summoned upon King Fahd's initiative — the king who supported our steps and contributed effectively to unite Lebanese ranks and stands in order to reach unified objectives and common goals.

[Nawfal] All the factions agree on the need to carry out security arrangements in the south. Lawyer Nabih Birri spoke about a formula for a realistic solution. How can we envisage this formula and where will the liberation of the land, geographically, begin?

[Al-Jumayyil] I believe that no one will differ with me on the need to liberate southern Lebanon and western Al-Biqa' — we always speak about the south at a time when there are other occupied areas. Liberation cannot take place except through these security measures with which Israel will feel safe and facilitate its withdrawal from Lebanon. These security arrangements are practical measures that the Lebanese government will carry out to completely control the situation in the south to prevent the return of chaos to that region. Perhaps in the initial stage the UN peacekeeping forces can help through an increase of their elements. This is in addition to the help of the Lebanese Army, which we are currently purging. We hope that through these arrangements, and with the help of both the UN peace-keeping forces and the Lebanese Army, we will be able to restore security and reassurance to this area. Hence, there will be no excuse for the Israeli forces to remain in the south since they entered Lebanon under the slogan of peace for the Galilee.

If we perform our duty in our land and restore stability and peace to the south, the pull-out of the Israeli forces from Lebanon will be inevitable. We pointed out this fact in the decision that the Cabinet made on abrogating the 17 May agreement. It was openly mentioned in this decision that the Cabinet will look for an alternative; namely, the security arrangements which we want to carry out in this particular area.

[Nawfal] You paid numerous visits abroad and did not spare a single effort. Through the meetings that you held with the world's senior officials, can we say that the international equations permit today a decisive solution of the Lebanese crisis? What are Lebanon's ambitions now?

[Al-Jumayyil] We have not reached these convictions yet. The Lebanese peace can only be achieved through continuing sacrifices and efforts. The Lebanese people are fully aware of their responsibilities concerning this particular matter. Through my visits abroad, the unity of Lebanese ranks, and all the efforts of the Lebanese officials, leaderships, and people, we hope to achieve our objectives; namely, liberating the Lebanese territory, restoring peace and stability, and ensuring freedom, equality, and reassurance for the entire Lebanese people.

[Nawfal] Throughout this conference, and as everyone testifies, Your Excellency played the role of the arbiter with a great deal of wisdom, sense of purpose, and control. But have you felt at any moment that the position of the chairman was threatened by anyone inside the conference?

[Al-Jumayyil] Naturally, the atmosphere in which Lebanon is living is bound to provoke certain emotions and convulsions. These emotions and convulsions exist in all institutions and in all the sides concerned with the Lebanese crisis. After 10 years of devastating war, standards and bases have been shaken. Therefore, the whole of Lebanon became vulnerable, and I regret to say that it was even exposed to extinction.

God be praised, everyone is fully aware of the great responsibilities he is shouldering. Naturally, we went through very difficult moments. But Lebanon must triumph. Lebanon's triumph comes from the triumph of its institutions. Hence this result in which Lebanon and its institutions have triumphed. We hope that the Lebanese people will in the end also triumph over their tribulation.

[Nawfal] At the outset of the Lausanne conference, you asked: Is there any option in the 80's other than the first option of the 40's? I believe you were referring to the 1943 convention. Does this convention still respond to today's requirements, or does it need to be developed?

[Al-Jumayyil] Every convention needs to be developed. We are in an ever-changing world. We are at the end of the 20th Century. The Lebanese convention did not actually start in the 40's, but in the 20's. The Lebanese Constitution dates back to 1926. That was the time when the Lebanese formula began to develop and take shape. We are always seeking continuous development of the institutions and of every field which will contribute to the happiness of the Lebanese. This is the final objective. The objective is not the systems, laws, constitutions, and conventions. The most important thing and the basis is the Lebanese himself and his happiness, security, and equality. Everything that ensures equality and security for the Lebanese people will be our goal. Conventions were written for the sake of man and are developing for the sake of man.

[Nawfal] Most of the speakers say we must not leave Lausanne without results. Do you believe that a new era will begin for President Amin al-Jumayyil after Lausanne?

[Al-Jumayyil] I do not consider my personal interest at all. I am at the disposal of Lebanon. The new era we are hoping for will be the era of Lebanon. We hope that we will usher in today a new era; the era of reassurance, equality, justice, freedom, and democracy. All these words are not empty resounding slogans. Every one of these words stems from the basis of Lebanese existence. There is no existence for Lebanon without equality, freedom, reassurance, justice, and democracy. We are now looking to the Lebanon of the future with optimism and hope. We are looking to the Lebanon of the future as the homeland of freedoms and man which embraces everyone. This homeland, which is small in size but big in its ambitions, hopes to play a basic role in the achievement of the Middle Eastern objectives of peace in this region and the world. Lebanon is the most beautiful example of cooperation and coexistence among all factions. All the crises that swept Lebanon in 1958, 1973, 1975, and 1978 and all the destruction, ruination, and displacment that resulted from these crises; all these experiences have molded a new character of the Lebanese people and created a new man in Lebanon, a man who is strong and solid. Through this man, we will again play the pioneering role, which the Arabs and the world are expecting of us.

Al-Jumayyil Swiss TV Interview

AU161926 Rome ANSA in English 1915 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] (ANSA) Lussanne, March 16 — Peace in Lebanon must be achieved first if there is to be peace in the Middle East, Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil said today in an interview to Swiss Television. Along with representatives of all the Lebanese political forces, al-Jumayyil has been in Lausanne for the past four days for the national reconciliation conference which suspended its plenary session today to commemorate the "martyrdom" of Druze leader Kamal Junblatt, who was killed on March 16, 1977.

Al-Jumayyil recalled how his country, after the "historic compromise" of 1943, had for years been a model of how different ethnic and religious communities could live in harmony until developments in the Arab revolution and subsequent foreign interventions plunged Lebanon into a state of chaos. This is the time for recovery, he said. The historic compromise of 1943 must be recycled so that a new, united Lebanon can be forged in an era of peace, the president added. Al-Jumayyil said that the problem of Lebanon was not a question of any single individual or who held the presidential spot. The problem was one of foreign interference. If the problem were a personal one, Lebanon was well worth a presidency, he concluded.

Al-Jumayyil French TV Interview

NC161658 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Voice of Lebanon team dispatch from Lausanne — date not given, recorded]

[Text] Amin al-Jumayyil, president of the republic, has announced that the conclusion of the conference will take the form of an historic document that will be adopted by all participants. This will be a document of a formula emphasizing the desire of all parties to end the war and to coexist as brothers under the aegis of peace in Lebanon.

In an interview with the second channel of French television, President Amin al-Jumayyil asserted what has happened in Lebanon has proven to be very painful and it has cost us a great deal — and this is what we must admit.

He said observers have done us an injustice. This is because they maintained that the war was purely a Lebanese one and a sectarian one too! In fact, the president said, this was not the case — absolutely not! Foreign interference in our affairs caused the dramas that we have witnessed. However, if left alone, the Lebanese know how to coexist — and this foreign interference has been recurring since 1958.

With regard to the results expected at the Lausanne conference, the president of the republic said:

We will try to achieve an agreement that will base Lebanese conciliation and existence on firm, unshakeable foundations. What is important is for the Lebanese to be left to lead a peacefullife, said President al-Jumayyil, and — without foreign interference — all problems will be resolved!

He added: The results that will be produced by the conference will confirm that there is no sectarian conflict, and that the things we will agree on will transcend the interests of this or that person. The reason is that Lebanon can live only through its institutions, and sincere men work to benefit these institutions.

Answering another question about the results that were yielded by the Damascus summit meeting between himself and President al-Asad, the president said: While in Damascus, I defended that which I had always defended, that is, the emergence of sound relations between Lebanon and Syria — relations stemming from mutual respect and sovereignty. My visit to Damascus had been slated prior to the illness of President al-Asad and to the recent security conflagration. To a question about the meaning of the presence of Mr 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, and about this presence being construed as Syrian hegemony, President al-Jumayyil answered: No. The reason is that Saudi Arabians were also involved in the Lebanese situation and before them came Philip Habib, Mcfarlane, Rumsfeld, and Prince Bandar ibn Sultan — and this is always the case. This is because when the situation worsens in Lebanon, as the result of foreign interference, Lebanon takes recourse to all its friends so they might help it emerge from the ordeal. I am confident, President al-Jumayyil added, that we will achieve a solution that will ensure the dignity and freedom of all the Lebanese.

The president was asked: What impact has been left on you by the demand made at the conference that you resign and be put on trial?

He answered: I have been conversant with politics for quite some time — and those who work in politics have to expect pleasant and unpleasant things. They have to be prepared to confront all probabilities, because this is the logic of politics.

In answering a final question about who has been the winner of the Lebanese war, President al-Jumayyil answered: There have been no winners in this war. This is because all the things that have been termed victories, have, in fact, been traps. Furthermore, there has been one great loser — Lebanon. This conference must yield a prominent result for which all potentials will be mobilized in such a way so that, in the final analysis, Lebanon will be the sole winner.

To a final [as heard] question about future relations with France, he said: These relations are now at their best, and we thank France for the initiatives that it has made. After the conference, we will work for further brotherly relations with President Mitterrand.

Al-Jumayyil, Birri Interviews Reported

NC180833 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] In a series of press interviews with foreign correspondents, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has expressed the hope that the conferees will be able to draft a joint document. He said: We are proceeding on the right course in this regard, because we are convinced of the need to end the Lebanese tragedy. He added: No one will dare go back to Lebanon without results, because the Lebanese will stone us all.

Regarding the alternative to the 17 May agreement after its abrogation, President al-Jumayyil said: We shall seek new arrangements, and we hope to achieve them soon.

Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri has affirmed his rejection of any partitionist proposal. He said: Administrative decentralization is the demand of everyone. Birri said: There are demands on which we cannot go back. We hope that a unified working paper will be drafted.

Birri affirmed the need to abolish political sectarianism. He said: This alone can liberate Lebanon and make it possible to plan the future of Lebanon. It is also the approach to the liberation of the south.

Lebanese TV Interviews Birri

NC182158 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Lebanese television carried an interview tonight by its correspondent in Lausanne with Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri. During this interview, the correspondent asked Birri a number of questions on current issues, on the debates at the National Dialogue Conference, and on the meetings on the periphery of the conference.

At the beginning of the interview, Lawyer Birri was asked whether his meeting today with President Amin al-Jumayyil — which was attended by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Saudi Minister of State Shaykh Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud — signifies a major shift toward the regime. He said: This meeting is a link in the chain of meetings that are usually held with President al-Jumayyil — in Khaddam's presence — in an attempt to draw the parties' viewpoints closer.

Lawyer Birri added: Basically, the meeting absolutely does not signify any rapprochement. This is because the aspired rapprochement is not one among individuals. The rapprochement we want is one among the Lebanese — a rapprochement on the joint goal; on the working paper we have submitted.

Lawyers Birri emphasized that there shall be no salvation for Lebanon except through the building of the new Lebanon — the contemporary and nonsectarian Lebanon, the Lebanon of the future, which constitutes a safeguard for all its sons through the system of compatriotism, not through the link of sectarianism.

He said: Sectarianism constitutes no guarantee for anybody, and the sole safeguard that can possibly constitute stability — not only on the sectarian level but also on the individual level — is the safeguard of providing the citizen with all rights and of ensuring that all citizens discharge their duties. At this time, there is no scope for the building of a new Lebanon other than through the abolition of political sectarianism.

Birri said: What has happened in Lebanon will not be condoned in any way and must be dealt with through the designation of responsibilities and through an agreement on a solution for the south aimed at saving it from Israel's claws, as well as through an agreement on the amendment of the electoral law in such a way that it will turn Lebanon into one electoral constituency.

Lawyer Birri replied to a question on how he assesses the progress of the dialogue conference's work, saying: What has happened has not been a waste of time, nor has it failed to measure up to the necessary seriousness. We agreed this morning on the formation of a joint committee comprising the advisers of all the delegations in a serious attempt to provide a unified working paper.

Beirut Radio Interviews Birri

NC162052 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1903 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Interview conducted by Beirut radio with Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri, who is in Lausanne, on 16 March — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Unidentified reporter] You went to the dialogue conference with firm specified demands, including one pertaining to the trial of some top officials because of what happened on the ground and because of the destruction that took place in the southern suburb and some Lebanese areas. The charge was clear. After your meeting with the president, have these demands assumed a new course?

[Birri] A meeting took place between the president and myself at

the conference hall in the presence of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam; the delegation accompanying him; the Saudi minister and his delegation; and Brothers Haytham Jum'ah and Muhammad Baydun. Indeed, we raised all the issues we had earlier raised in Lebanon. The first issue is summed up by the following: finding a solution to south Lebanon by dismantling the Lebanese Forces' barracks and withdrawing these forces from the south; strengthening UN emergency forces there by increasing their number and giving them the necessary power to implement UN Resolution No 524; and dispatching the National Lebanese Army to the south. We said that this is the approach to every solution.

The second issue we raised was the cancellation of political sectarianism in Lebanon.

The third issue we concentrated upon was bringing to account those responsible for destroying and ruining the southern suburb, the mountain, West Beirut, and Iqlim al-Kharrub. We emphasized our position vis-a-vis the demand for the resignation of the president on the basis that he is politically responsible for this ruination and the demand for the punishment of military officials responsible. We insisted that if the resignation is not possible, the plan for decreasing the term of the president should be implemented.

[Reporter] Naturally, the matter is still under discussion?

[Birri] The fact is that the working papers submitted by us and others have been discussed. Two committees have been formed. One committee is charged with finding ways to restore normal conditions in greater Beirut. The other is concerned with political proposals. We hope to submit a unified working paper. However, there are facts that it is impossible to ignore, as I said earlier.

[Reporter] Some news agencies have reported that the conference's final statement might include administrative and military divisions in the districts. Could you explain this?

[Birri] Every partitionist course, whether it be in the form of a federation, confederation, canton, or political decentralization, is absolutely rejected by us. Administrative decentralization which facilitates the affairs of the citizens is almost a unanimous demand. Administrative decentralization facilitating citizens' affairs is the only thing we accept.

[Reporter] It is said that there is a conflict between the working paper of the Amal Movement and that of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP].

[Birri] There is absolutely no contradiction between the Amal Movement and the PSP movement papers for the very simple reason that we have submitted a joint working paper.

[Reporter] The Lebanese, particularly the southerners, are anxious to see the results of the conference. Will they be reasonable? Do you believe that the results of the conference will be up to the expectations of the people who have been paying the price for 10 years?

[Birri] I know that all of us need peace. All of us want to see an end to the bloodshed. All of us want to care for our children, open our schools, and return to normal life. On the other hand, it is impermissible under all circumstances and under the influence of existing pressures, which are legitimate at times, that we should forget the most important thing — the future of Lebanon. It is impermissible that we should suffer now and then what we have been suffering since 1975. What is required now is the building of a new and modern Lebanon. It must be built on national foundations. The national edifice and a secure and safe future can only be built on national foundations. These national foundations, abandoning sectarian proposals, and cancelling political sectarianism alone will liberate Lebanon and chart its future. Furthermore, they are the approach to liberate the south.

Junblatt Meets Journalists

NC171712 Paris AFP in English 1708 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Lausanne, Switzerland, March 17 (AFP) -- Lebanese Druze opposition leader Walid Junblatt is trying to arrange for the return of Christians who were last September driven from their homes in the mainly Druze Ash-Shuf mountains near Beirut, he told journalists here today. Mr Junblatt, who heads the Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), said: "The Christians of the Ash-Shuf have the right to return to the region, but an agreement on the question has to be reached by local leaders, Mr (Camille) Sham'un and myself." Mr Junblatt made the remarks after a lunch here with Mr Sham'un, head of the Christian Lebanese Front coalition and main leader of the Ash-Shuf Christians. Both men are attending the Lebanese National Reconciliation Conference here.

"There is no conflict, no problem between us," he added, referring to Mr Sham'un. "The aims of Mr Sham'un are different from those of Pierre al-Jumayyil," he said, while refusing to expand on that statement. Mr al-Jumayyil, father of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, heads the right-wing Christian Phalangist Party, which belongs to Mr Sham'un's Lebanese Front. PSP militia forces expelled the Ash-Shuf's Christian inhabitants from the region during a brief war which followed the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the mountains last September.

Junblatt Supports Secularization

NC181833 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mo[illegible]ain in Arabic to Lebanon 1740 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Telephone dispatch from the Voice of the Mountain correspondent in Lausanne, Switzerland — recorded]

[Text] Before entering the conference hall today, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt answered a question by reporters on [words indistinct] Lebanon saying: The only formula to save Lebanon is secularization. Frankly, I do not believe we will agree on this formula. [words indistinct] and the generations are more distant, particularly since we are holding a dialogue with an outmoded ruling class. This ruling class is not aware that innocent people are being killed and wounded every day and that the price is high. Their concerns are class and sectarian privileges. Asked about the chances of the conference's

success, Junblatt said: The conferees will reach a compromise solution. It is most likely that it will remain ink on paper. The issue is no more than a service to Lebanon, which the parties share. It is also important to agree on the imposition of a serious cease-fire as an approach to obtaining a result regarding [word indistinct].

Walid Junblatt compared the conference with a bazzar or a market [words indistinct]. He said: I impatiently look forward to our departure and return to our kinsfolk in Beirut, the mountain, and [word indistinct].

Asked about the convocation of a third and fourth conference, Junblatt answered: There might be more.

Junblatt was asked: Do you approve of the adoption of secularization, which former President Sham'un raised at the conference? He answered: We — I, Rashid Karami, and Sa'ib Salam — are (?for) secularization because we believe [words indistinct] which would end the whirlpool of violence in Lebanon. The Muslims in Lebanon accept secularization. [passage indistinct]

Paris Radio Interviews Junblatt

LD191032 Paris Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Excerpts] The Lausanne Conference on Lebanese Reconciliation is running into difficulties. The participants do not even sit any longer in plenary sessions, they make do with private consultations, far from microphones and cameras. They are marking time. Obviously they cannot come to an agreement over the new Lebanese institutions. At a riverside hotel, where the heart is no longer in it [as heard], our correspondent in Lausanne, Mireille Lemaresquier met Druze leader Walid Junblatt who deplores and once more attacks his opponent Al-Jumayyil.

[Begin Junblatt recording] If we do not find the formula for compromise, there will be general war in Beirut and it will be terrible because there are so many innocent people who are dying every day. This silent majority, whether Christian or Muslim, must be given at least a minimum of respite, of hope. We must not make a new Lebanon with these [word indistinct] kind of people, these same people who have destroyed Lebanon, whether they are from the right or from the left, the so-called left. Amin al-Jumayyil is not the man for historic decisions, he is just a man who wants to save his skin. It is unfortunate, but that is the case. The Al-Jumayyils have let themselves be dragged along, trapped by their own slogans, the (?fanaticism) that they have incited and now cannot get rid of. [end recording]

Beirut Cites Junblatt Interview

NC190714 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt has given an interview to the Lebanese television in Lausanne. He said: In order to achieve a serious cease-fire, the forces must be separated; otherwise, we will fall into the same trap in which we fell after the first security plan which followed the first Geneva conference. We had then spent 3 months debating how to implement the cease-fire. I believe that after what has happened in Ash-Shahhar and in West Beirut, the Army must return to the barracks and demilitarized zones must be established so that we will be able to rebuild the institutions through political reforms.

Junblatt was asked: We have learned that you have a working paper demanding that responsibility for what happened in the mountain and in the suburb be pinpointed and that political and constitutional reforms be put into effect. Do you believe that failure to meet these demands will complicate matters further and, consequently, will not enable the conference to achieve the required solutions?

Junblatt replied: We cannot just tell the Lebanese people that we have emerged from this historic conference with reforms without pinpointing responsibilities and without judging those who did what they did in the suburb, in the mountain, in Iqlim al-Kharrub and everywhere. We must do this in order to preserve the dignity of this conference and the conferees as well as the dignity of the states that have participated in the conference, such as Syria and Saudi Arabia.

Junblatt was asked: Former President Camille Sham'un has proposed the idea of federalism. He defends it as a formula for a new Lebanon. The opposition has taken a hard stand against this matter. How do you view this issue now that a party which is participating in the conference has described it as only a tactical method? Junblatt replied: I believe that it is a tactical method to achieve a compromise solution because in the final analysis nobody can apply federalism in Lebanon. Had Lebanon been larger in area, we might be able to apply federalism. If applied, federalism would means a sectarian separation of the population. It would also mean the destruction of the remaining coexistence in the south, in the north, and in the Al-Biqa'. This would be at the expense of the Christians before being at the expense of the Muslims. The final result would be the emigration of the Lebanese Christians. We wish for this proposal to be only a tactical one. We hope that we will eventually be able to reach a common denominator that will give Lebanon a developed and even a secular political system. This principle has been discussed at length during the conference. I believe that an agreement on this matter is not impossible.

Franjiyah AL-BAYAN Remarks

GF181100 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0755 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Dubayy, 18 Mar (WAKH) — Former Lebanese president Sulayman Franjiyah has said that essential differences exist among the conferees in the Lebanese National Conciliation Conference being held in Lausanne, Switzerland. He said the differences concern three main points while there is full agreement on ten points.

In a statement published in the newspaper *AL-BAYAN* today, he noted that the points of disagreement among the conferees concern three main issues: eliminating political sectarianism; the question of federalism and the cantons because this issue

represents a covert division; and the question of citizenship for those resident in Lebanon and for exiles.

He explained that the points of agreement are: conceding the proposal submitted by Junblatt, leader of the Socialist Progressive Party, regarding the formation of a senate; increasing the number of deputies to 150 to be shared equally by the Muslims and the Christians; cancelling sectarianism in jobs including those of the army command and public security; granting the council of deputies the right to select the prime minister and name him; keeping the authority to dissolve the cabinet and the ministers in the hands of the president; reorganizing the army; and formulating a new law for defense.

The points of agreement also include: freezing the legislative decrees as a prelude to reconsidering them; adopting a decentralized administration in order to activate local action and bring about the economic development of provinces; and dissolving the militias throughout the Lebanese territories.

Lebanese Military Official on Syrian Pressure
NC161825 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] This afternoon, the commander in chief of the Lebanese Forces, Mr Fadi Afram, received a member of the West German Foreign Affairs Parliamentary Commission, Mr (Peter Guntman), who is on a fact-finding mission in Lebanon. Afterward, Mr Fadi Afram said that the discussions had covered the dangers threatening Lebanon, notably that of Syrian hegemony over official decision, and the loss by the Christian society in particular and by the Lebanese society in general of its liberty. This, he said, was what the Syrians were aiming at by their military pressure.

Further on Remarks
NC190800 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] In a statement published today in the West German newspaper *DIE WELT*, Lebanese Forces Commander Fadi Afram said that the Lausanne conference is only a step in the implementation of the Syrian hegemony plan; it also aims at forming a Lebanese government that will impose Syrian policy in Lebanon under the cover of Lebanese legality. He added that if this government decides to send Arab or Syrian forces to the Christian areas in Lebanon, the Lebanese Forces will militarily confront these forces. If the government adopts political decisions jeopardizing the interests of the Christian community, the government will be opposed politically.

Afram called for the conclusion of bilateral agreements between the Christians and each of the Druze and Sh'ites to establish a federal Lebanese state in the unoccupied areas. He concluded by saying that an exemplary situation for Lebanon would be a regional alliance with Israel, politically guaranteed by the United States.

Lebanon To Request French Aid for Security Body
NC191107 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Michel Samahah, spokesman for the Lebanese president, has announced that the Lebanese Government recently informed France that it intends to solicit France's assistance for the formation of a security body that will allow the resumption of movement between the various sectors of Beirut.

Al-Mas'ud Reportedly Says Syria Will Withdraw
NC162130 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Saudi Minister of State Muhammad Ibrahim al-Mas'ud said Syria will leave Lebanon if an official Lebanese request is made. As for an Israeli withdrawal, he said, this can be achieved through an agreement among the Lebanese and with complete Arab support. Minister al-Mas'ud said: It is natural for differences among the parties to exist. We are seeking to eliminate these differences together with Syrian envoy Khaddam.

Beirut Radio on Security Situation in Lebanon
NC181804 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Clashes intensified this evening on the contact lines in Beirut and its southern suburb after having abated somewhat this afternoon. The two sides on the contact lines in Beirut traded rocket and artillery fire. This later extended to the mountain areas. Meanwhile, reports said that France has agreed to deploy its forces in the buffer zones.

Today's fighting followed yesterday's fierce clashes, the fiercest since the cease-fire agreement was declared last Tuesday. The cease-fire agreement was violently violated on the contact lines up to the residential areas in Beirut and its southern suburb. Police sources said that 15 persons were killed, including 4 Palestinians in the Shatila camp. The police added that 45 others received different injuries.

At 0530 and 1130 today, unidentified aircraft overflew Beirut. Citizens woke up at 0630 to the sound of thunder, which they wrongly thought was the sound of explosions.

In Iqlim al-Kharrub, reports said that clashes with rockets and machine guns occurred involving Siblin, Al-Jiyah, and al-Burjayn on the coastal line north of Al-Awwali.

No date has yet been set for the meeting of the Security Arrangements Committee. The Lausanne conferees authorized the committee to lay down preparations for a truce and to deploy retired policemen as observers between the combatants to determine who is violating the cease-fire.

Press reports said today that France agreed to its troops' being used to identify cease-fire violators. France, however, is still waiting for the approval of all the combatants and Syria before beginning this task. There are 1,250 French soldiers that will be

deployed on the contact lines once an agreement to this effect has been reached. They will be stationed in the port and the airport.

Salim: No New Security Arrangements

NC172039 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Elie Salim has denied reports that he was assigned to hold contacts with U.S. diplomats to help plan security arrangements in the [Lebanese] south. Salim pointed out that following the recent Cabinet meeting there were no new developments concerning security arrangements.

Beirut Clashes Reported

NC180613 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Security sources said that 13 people were killed and at least 35 others were wounded in yesterday's clashes on the contact lines and the traditional combat axes in Beirut and its southern suburb. The results of yesterday's clashes were the worst since the start of the national dialogue conference in Lausanne last Monday.

Officials of Ghazzah hospital said that seven people were killed and five others were wounded when the Sabra camp and its perimeter were shelled yesterday morning. The victims included both Palestinians and Lebanese. This is the first time residential areas in Beirut have been shelled since the cease-fire last Tuesday.

Amal Oficial on Cease-fire

NC162138 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] In a statement he made today, Colonel 'Akif Haydar, head of the Amal Movement Political Bureau, affirmed the movement's readiness to release detainees, provided the other side responds in kind. He said: The case of the kidnapped persons is an old and chronic one. It is not so important that a decision should be made in Lausanne. It is more important that such a decision must be implemented.

Referring to the cease-fire decision, Haydar emphasized that the Amal Movement fully abides by this decision. Haydar today received a telephone call from Dr Muhammad Baydun, a member of the Amal delegation to Lausanne. Baydun briefed him on consultations and contacts made to reach a political solution to the Lebanese crisis.

Druze Commander on Cease-fire

NC161837 Paris AFP in English 1832 GMT 16 Mar 84

[By Carol Hakim]

[Excerpts] Al-Mukhtarah, Lebanon, March 16 (AFP) — Lebanon's warring factions must disengage on the battlefield if a cease-fire announced Tuesday at the national reconciliation talks in Switzerland is to be fully applied, opposition Druze military leader Colonel Sharif Fayyad said here today.

Since the cease-fire was announced, sporadic fighting has continued in Beirut and in Ash-Shuf mountains south and east of the city, with particularly heavy clashes today along the so-called "Green Line" separating Moslem West from Christian East Beirut.

Colonel Fayyad, a former Lebanese Army officer who now heads the militia forces of the Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), discussed a simple ceremony in the Ash-Shuf town of Al-Mukhtarah to mark the seventh anniverrsary of the death of PSP founder Kamal Junblatt.

A proposal made at Lausanne for all militia forces to pull back 700 metrs from their current front lines would not work in practice, particularly in Beirut and in the mountain regions of Suq al-Gharb and 'Alayh, Col Fayyad said.

"A pullback of that kind in these sectors, and particularly in Beirut, would oblige militiamen and soldiers to in some cases withdraw into inhabited areas," Col Fayyad told the AFP.

The PSP had proposed that the strategic mountain locality of Suq al-Gharb southeast of here be turned into a "de-militarized zone" and handed back to its civilian inhabitants, he added.

Suq al-Gharb, which since last September has seen some of the heaviest fighting of the war, overlooks the presidential palace in the Beirut suburbs. Government troops entrenched there have come under heavy attack from PSP forces.

The PSP would pull back its troops from villages nearby if the proposal were agreed upon, Col Fayyad said.

In Beirut, opposing militias could each pull back one block from their current positions, he said, adding that the security committee set up to enforce the cease-fire would have to "examine each particular case separately to find the correct solution."

The question of Beirut's International Airport, which since February 6 has been controlled along with the rest of west and south-west Beirut by opposition Druze and Moslem militias, "should be dealt with along with that of the port," Col Fayyad said.

The airport is now controlled by the dissident Sixth Brigade of the Lebanese Army, which refused to fight Druze and Moslem forces when they took over West Beirut. The port is controlled by the right-wing Christian militia known as the Lebanese Forces.

On March 8 the leader of the opposition Shia Moslem Amal movement, Nabih Birri, proposed that the airport be reopened immediately.

But this was refused by the Lebanese Forces who demanded that the road leading to the airport should be controlled by a commonly-approved force.

"We consider that the road to the airport is now safe," Col Fayyad said, adding that "In any case, the airport was open for a year in spite of the fact that it was under the control of the Army and certain groups did not have access to it."

However, the airport is unlikely to be reopened soon, Col Fayyad said.

He added that a return to their homes of Christian residents who were expelled from the Ash-Shuf mountains last September was now possible after a meeting in Lausanne between Mr Junblatt and right-wing Christian leader Camille Sham'un.

"But it will take time," he said.

Junblatt Meets Israeli Knesset Speaker

NC181657 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Phalangist military radio]

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt met today with Israeli Knesset Speaker Menachem Savidor at the Palace Hotel in Switzerland.

Two Israeli Soldiers Wounded in South Lebanon

NC180827 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] This morning two Israeli soldiers were wounded when an explosive device went off on the Al-Harah-'Ayn Dilb road east of Sidon. An Israeli helicopter landed in the area of the incident to evacuate the wounded soldiers. Israeli soldiers combed the area in search of the perpetrators.

Israeli Activity Reported

NC180922 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Our correspondent in Sidon reported this morning that the Mar Ilyas area, east of Sidon — where there is a large concentration of enemy forces — has witnessed intensive helicopter activity. Many helicopters have loaded and taken off.

This was preceded by a big explosion that echoed in Sidon. A cloud of smoke was seen billowing from the explosion site on the Al-Harah-'Ayn ad-Dilb-Mar Ilyas road. Bursts of gunfire were also heard following the explosion. An Israeli armored patrol, comprising Merkava tanks, was seen on the 'Innaya-Sidon road. A group of Israeli soldiers was seen setting up a checkpoint on the Hayy as-Sabbagh-Ath-Tuknah road near the railway.

Aliyev Leaves Syria, Makes Statement

JN171606 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1240 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 17 Mar (SANA) — Geydar Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has asserted: Syria's role in the Middle East is very large and we believe that it maintains a firm and principled anti-imperialist stand which is solid and brave. This stand has produced the desired results.

In a statement to Syrian Arab television just before his departure from Damascus following his 4-day visit to Syria, Aliyev added: We believe that the United States was defeated in Lebanon and that Syria and its firm courageous stand played a large role in the victory of the Lebanese nationalist forces.

The Soviet official praised the results of his visit to Syria and his talks with President Hafiz al-Asad. He also praised the development of the existing ties of friendship and cooperation between Syria and the USSR in all fields. He affirmed that the USSR, which is acting on the basis of the resolutions of the CPSU congresses, will continue to strengthen friendship with Syria and to give it continuous support in its struggle against imperialist and reactionary forces in the region.

Aliyev said that the United States is mainly responsible for aggravating the international situation and interfering in the internal affairs of certain states. He said that this policy is facing strong opposition from the forces of peace in the region, and that the USSR has worked and is working for checking [kasr] U.S. intervention and foiling U.S. plans, and that it will do everything for the sake of calming down the tense international situation, securing peace, and preventing danger for the world.

TISHRIN Lauds Syrian-Soviet Cooperation

PM161506 Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 13 Mar 84 p 8

[Marwan al-Mahayini article: "Syria and the Soviet Union: Horizons of Struggle"]

[Excerpts] The dimensions and significance of the current visit to Damascus by member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo Aliyev are quite evident. Since the visit was announced prior to leader Andropov's death, and given the demonstrated desire that it take place immediately after the funeral, it was rightly considered to be an extremely significant sign of the desire by the two friendly countries to exchange consultations and views in the light of the extremely important developments in the Middle East.

At the beginning of his visit the senior Soviet official expressed this desire and pointed to the growing ties of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and their effect in consolidating steadfastness and confrontation against the dangerous and irresponsible imperialist and Zionist plans which Washington and Israel are trying to impose with the help of navies and aggression.

Geydar Aliyev's reference to the important role Syria is playing in confronting these plans, thus making it the number one enemy of imperialists, and to its ability to time and again thwart imperialist military pressures, and his expression of the Soviet Union's high appreciation of this Syrian role and steadfastness underline first and foremost its importance in the efforts being made within the context of the work to ensure and strengthen world peace in the face of the U.S. Administration's dangerous and reckless actions in many parts of the world, and especially in the Middle East and Lebanon, where such actions and policies have failed, and in the Gulf, where attempts have been launched to compensate for this failure.

The world forces of liberation and progress, which are working unremittingly to strengthen the chances for peace and to thwart attempts by the U.S. aggressive policy with its terrorist, military, and arbitrary means, have, through Mr Aliyev's visit to Al-Asad's Syria, achieved a commendable step.

There is no doubt that the Syrian-Soviet desire to strengthen positive, good, and constructive cooperation within the framework of the treaty that links the two countries will lend greater strength and solidity to the prominent Syrian role which, thanks to the illustrious successes it has achieved, is respected by all the world's free and honorable men and enjoys the support of all the struggling peoples.

Therefore, Syria will continue to play this successful and positive role with greater resolve and strength and with a greater ability to thwart attempts to impose imperialist and Zionist plans.

Ba'th Party Sends Message to CPSU Committee

JN181308 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command has emphasized that the gravity of the situation on the international level includes all world regions and calls for the serious concern of all peoples and forces that love peace and justice.

In a reply message addressed to the CPSU Central Committee, the National Command stressed that the hostile U.S. policy being adopted by Reagan's administration throughout the world is the main source of danger. It pointed out the hostile, imperialist U.S. trend in the Middle East and said: The development of events indicates that U.S. imperialism and its ally Israel are further escalating their hostility. It stressed that this hostile policy is a basic link in the strategy of aggression and confrontation being applied by the United States on the international level — a strategy threatening peace in the region and the world.

The message referred to the imperialist and Zionist plots represented in the Camp David accords, the Reagan plan, and the imposition of the submission agreement canceled recently. It said that this had complicated and strained the situation in the region and the world. It also noted that the convocation of the Stockholm conference is a positive step and an important accomplishment for the peace-loving forces in Europe and the world, and that the Arab people in Syria, like the rest of the world's peoples, are eager to alleviate world tension and eliminate its causes and factors.

In its message, the Ba'th Party National Command asserted that the national liberation struggle against the U.S. military presence, the escalation of aggression, and the U.S.-Zionist plans of hegemony and expansion is a struggle for peace and justice and against the danger of a U.S. nuclear war. Within this trend, Syria constitutes a main base firmly supporting all the forces of liberation, progress, and peace in the region and the world.

The message also expressed great appreciation of the policy of peace, friendship, and solidarity among peoples being adopted by the friendly Soviet Union and its continuous efforts to safeguard world peace and avert the danger of a nuclear war.

Al-Asad, Al-Jumayyil Talk on Lausanne Meeting

JN170630 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus — Last night, President Hafiz al-Asad received a telephone call from Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, who thanked the president for Syria's efforts to help Lebanon. Al-Jumayyil informed the president on the proceedings of the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference in Lausanne. He said: The first stage of the conference's work is proceeding successfully.

President Hafiz al-Asad expressed satisfaction with the information the Lebanese president gave on the conference's work. He said: This is happy news for Syria. We will always cooperate with Lebanon. We will exert all possible effort for Lebanon's sake.

The president requested the Lebanese president, in his capacity as chairman of the conference, to convey his greetings and good wishes to the conferees. The president expressed the hope that the conference will realize complete success and that everyone will treat each other with particular patience. He said that Lebanon's interests require such an attitude.

Press Coverage on Lausanne Conference

TISHRIN on Success Factors

JN181244 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0820 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus, 18 Mar (SANA) — In its commentary today, *TISHRIN* emphasizes that all the factors of success are available once the Lausanne conferees proceed from the need to ensure equality and justice for all Lebanese. This requires the cancellation of political sectarianism and the belief that the homeland is for all its people and not a group of them.

The paper adds: Within this perspective, the required change will reflect positively on all the Lebanese communities. The factors of success are there once some drop the plan of cantons from their calculations and adhere to a Lebanon united in land and people.

The paper continues: Events have proven that the fears some expressed toward the future were only Israeli poison. Syria has clearly indicated that it is for all the Lebanese without exception and that it will not allow the imposition of a state of oppression on any Lebanese factions because the homeland can only rise by securing dignity, might, and confidence to all its people without exception.

The paper indicates that the credibility of the Syrian stand is no longer a subject of misinterpretation or discussion, as all parties have admitted. These are headed by President Amin al-Jumayyil, who repeatedly praised Syria's help and good offices and the role being played by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The situation being so, no party has any excuse to obstruct the success of the Lausanne conference.

Concluding, *TISHRIN* says: The Lebanese will not accept anything short of success and an end to the predicament. Syria, too, will not accept anything less than what the Lebanese want. the salvation of Lebanon should be today, and not tomrrow.

Commentary on Undermining Dialogue

JN181616 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: The Lebanese National Dialogue Conference parties are still meeting in Lausanne in an attempt to achieve an integrated formula to establish new Lebanon on firm and solid national bases. Those parties are the ones who are concerned about achieving this formula, and implementing it in their homeland, and Syria will not spare any efforts and capabilities to help them achieve this objective. Through its position as an observer at the confrence, Syria has presented everything possible to achieve the best results. In fact, Syria urged the conferees to come up with obvious resolutions to which all should adhere, so that this round will become a historical turning point in the life of the fraternal Lebanese people that will end violence, bloodbaths, and internecine fighting forever, establish the foundations and components of the homeland and existence, and expand its participation in the life of the great Arab nation.

Because of Syria's honorable pan-Arab role in the conference, the conferees have agreed on the bases and principles that will end the years of ordeal and pain, and establish the foundations of the new Lebanon. The fact is that these bases and principles are in harmony with what Syria presented at the beginning of the conference; namely, Lebanon must remain united, independent, and sovereign, and its sons must live with equal rights and duties, without fear and deprivation, as equal brothers. Syria has conveyed its support and encouragement to the conferees in every earnest effort aimed at achieving the formula of the united Lebanon which contains all its sons without discrimination, and adheres to its Arab identity and its genuine pan-Arab affiliation.

It seems that those who trade in weapons and blood, the U.S. and Israeli agents, will not accpet what the conferees will agree on, because they do not really accept the triumph achieved by the Lebanese people represented by toppling the 17 May agreement. Those agents are still trying to play with fire, and cause a new flare-up. They want to direct a new message to Syria, and to the dialogue conference parties. that includes a warning against any

attempt to establish the bases of national unity and achieve national accord.

We would like to say to these agents: Your new message has been received. You may be assured that dialogue, understanding, and reconciliation have another language that will provide protection and guarantee continuation. Any attempt to undermine the conference, obstruct dialogue, foil understanding, or delay reconciliation will be doomed to failure. Will those who trade in weapons and blood become aware of this fact before it is too late; or will they continue with their course, follow their whims, and await the reply to the message in the language they do understand?

AL-BA'TH on 'Sabotage' Attempts

JN180840 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Syria's Role in Lausanne Is an Extension of Its Role Throughout the Stages of the Crisis," *AL-BA'TH* writes: There is a partial consensus inside and outside the Lausanne conference on the Lebanese national dialogue that the conference will go beyond accord and reconciliation to the adoption of practical resolutions that will ensure the unity of Lebanon's land and people and the rebuilding of the fraternal country which has suffered great pains from fratricide during the past years.

Although we are not advocates or callers of exaggeration in any affair, the reports which leaked from all sides stressed one fact; namely, almost all are for accord, reconciliation, and attainment of solutions that can end this odd situation Beirut witnessed in Lebanon.

The paper adds: There is no doubt that there were and still are some attempts not only to sabotage the Lausanne conference, but also to torpedo the idea of dialogue. At the beginning of the conference, the conferees warned that exploding the security situation, which coincided with the opening of the conference, aims at blowing up everything and at continuing fratricide and chaos for the sake of partitioning Lebanon and turning it into a satellite revolving in the orbit of Israel and the United States. Most participants in the conference did not forget to say that Israel, the United States, and those harmed by accord and the return of security and stability are the ones behind the attempts to explode the situation. However, the agreement and insistence of all sides on the cease fire as well as their sincere work away from petty and personal affairs prompted observers to express optimism over agreement in the near future on solutions that can restore Lebanon's unity of land and people and achieve the various sides' legitimate aspirations for a homeland free of rancor.

AL-BA'TH adds: All the Lebanese and non-Lebanese admit that Syria's role was basic in narrowing differences in the viewpoints of all sides. This is due to the directives of struggler leader Hafiz al-Asad to Comrade 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who is attending the conference as an observer, on the need to work in cooperation with all sides for the sake of reaching radical solutions that can end the crisis and place Lebanon in its correct national Arab course. The paper stresses: The basic and influential role Syria is playing in the accord conference is only a natural extension of its role throughout the stages of the crisis — a role which cost it a great deal for the sake of preserving the unity of Lebanon's land and people. Syria alone realizes what the return of security and stability to Lebanon means. It is alone, after Lebanon and its people, the one harmed by the continuation of fratricide.

Concluding, the paper says: Syria's insistence that the Lausanne conferees should come out with radical solutions to all the basic problems which were the cause of the crisis means that Syria wants Lebanon to restore the unity of its territory and people as well as its security and stability. Therfore, Syria will not allow any side whatsoever to sabotage the Lausanne conference. The Lausanne conference convened to adopt the suitable resolutions that can deal with the Lebanese situation and the abrogation of the contract of submission was a sound beginning for embarking on reconciliation and reaching radical solutions to all problems.

TISHRIN on Sectarianism

JN190830 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Lausanne and the Required Steps" *TISHRIN* says: The U.S. Administration and the enemy's government are resorting to all kinds of pressure to foil the national dialogue conference, particularly after they have found that all that was agreed in Geneva has been implemented, specifically the reaffirmation of Lebanon's Arab affiliation and identity, and the abrogation of the 17 May agreement which constituted a strategic victory in the region over U.S. policy which has sustained the biggest defeat in its history since Vietnam. After dealing with the U.S. and Israeli attempts to hamper any progress that may be achieved in the conference through some of their agents, *TISHRIN* deals with the genuine national stand embodied by former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah when he insisted that the results of any Lebanese dialogue must bring about the settlement of two basic issues; the final acknowledgement of Lebanon's Arabism and its Arab affiliation, and the adoption of a clear stand toward Israel which reaffirms that it is Lebanon's enemy and occupies a large part of Lebanese territory.

TISHRIN adds: In fact, this important issue leads to a more important issue which still is a basic obstacle confronting the Lausanne conferees. This issue is what kind of Lebanon do the Lebanese want? Is it Lebanon as a homeland or a Lebanon of communities? What kind of Lebanese citizen do they want? Do they want a Lebanese of national affiliation or a Lebanese affiliated to a certain community?

The answer to these two questions constitutes an introduction to the building of new Lebanon, the Arab, unified, sovereign, free, and independent Lebanon of civilization and progress.

If some want the Lebanon of communities out of their concern to cling to some of the gains they had obtained at one time, this proposal which some are putting forth will remain defective because those who call for such a thing will realize they will be the first to be harmed by it. The principle of sectarianism dictates that each community must obtain its complete rights. If we review the demographic division in Lebanon, we find that the Maronites are no longer the first community in Lebanon, and that there is more than one community which exceeds it in number and potential. This means that if an equitable division according to the sects takes place, the Maronites will not obtain the gains they currently have. If we discuss the question of riches and deprivation, we will find that the Muslim communities are not the only ones suffering from deprivation but that many of the Christian communities themselves also suffer.

TISHRIN says: That is why the sectarian concept cannot lead to any result in addition to the fact that it will prevent the establishment of a unified Lebanon. The paper wonders: What then is the practical way for saving Lebanon? The paper replies by saying that it is that which leads to the equal treatment of all Lebanese as citizens who enjoy the same rights and have the same obligations. Efficiency and qualifications then will be the only criteria for the evaluation of this or that citizen. On then, will the Lebanese feel that they are the sons of Lebanon the homeland and not of Lebanon the community. Only then too will the loyalty to the community become a loyalty to the homeland. Will the interlocutors in Lausanne proceed along this course?

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Pictures Rif'at al-Asad

PM161638[Editorial Report] London *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* in Arabic 16 March 1984 on its front page pictures Syrian Vice President Rif'at al-Asad meeting with Geydar Aliyev, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. The caption runs as follows:

"First Political Activity for Syrian Vice President Rif'at al-Asad.

"This picture was distributed in Damascus yesterday and shows Colonel Rif'at al-Asad in his first official political activity since he was appointed vice president of the republic, receiving the Soviet deputy prime minister at the end of his official visit to Syria. The significance of the picture is that Al-Asad is wearing a military uniform which gives the lie to stories by some Western papers which said that the presidential decree appointing him merely mentioned his other title — Dr Rif'at al-Asad — indicating he has given up his military rank. The official report on the meeting said: Dr Rif'at al-Asad, vice president and commander of the defense companies, received the Soviet official before the latter's departure from Damascus. The French newspaper *LE MONDE* said that the defense companies have been disbanded, but official Syrian sources have denied the report."

AR-RAYAH Interviews Defense Minister Talas

GF170930 Doha QNA in Arabic 0705 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Doha, 17 Mar (QNA) — Syrian Defense Minister Maj Gen Mustafa Talas has renewed his country's warning that Israel is preparing in cooperation with the United States for aggression against Syria. He said that the strategic cooperation agreement between the two sides has become a practical framework for them to coordinate aggressive military and political actions in the region.

In a statement published in today's issue of the Qatari newspaper *AR-RAYAH*, Maj Gen Talas stressed that Syria is ready for any emergency. He added that if the United States and Israel were to embark on a widescale aggressive adventure, the Syrian Armed Forces would confront this aggression strongly and firmly.

He added: We do not want the confrontation between us and the United States to assume a major military dimension. However, he said, if the Reagan administration imposes this confrontation on us with the aim of forcing us to concede our stands and the rights of our people, we shall confront the aggression no matter what happens.

The Syrian defense minister reaffirmed that the Lebanese crisis will be solved only through the withdrawal of the invading Israeli forces from Lebanon. He said: The presence or nonpresence of our forces in Lebanon depends on the unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli invasion forces from every single part of Lebanon's territory and on the return of security and stability to its quarters under a nationalist government that rejects all forms of U.S. and Zionist hegemony and preserves Lebanon's integrity, Arabism and independence.

In his statement, Maj Gen Talas said that the steadfastness front continues to exist and to play a role.

Lebanon Decreases U.S. Credibility for Arabs

JN161554 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: The Lebanese people have outlined the first steps toward their independence, unity, and the entrenchment of their pan-Arab genuineness. Through these steps on the correct path, the Lebanese people have thus besieged the United States; and through their masses, they have encircled Israel in order to end its aggression and liberate southern Lebanon from its occupation.

The step in this direction by the Lebanese will have more valuable and larger impact. The U.S. justifications for shelling Beirut and the mountain area are no longer acceptable and Reagan's excuses and justifications for sending his warships off the Lebanese shore are also no longer acceptable. But the most positive impacts of

the Lebanese nationalist decision are the retreats which the Arab arena has begun to witness concerning the stands used by the United States as justification to plot against the Arabs and their causes. It has become obvious for those whose stands conflict with reality that the United States cannot differentiate between what is right and what is false —it cannot be the source of Israel's strength and aggression and be a friend of the Arabs at the same time. The United States cannot be a force that supports peace while it is actually the most savage force of aggression and the most dangerous source of threats against the Arab nation.

The expert White House politicians imagined that by subjugating Lebanon to sedition and killing they would be able to strike at the firm Syrian stand that supports right and confronts evil. When the Lebanese people shocked the United States by abrogating the Shultz agreement and drowned the Israeli soldiers in the deadly marshes of southern Lebanon, the United States began another alternative and a new method of plotting. It tried to obstruct the Lebanese nationalist dialogue and disclosed new aggressive intentions that serve its strategy and Israel's objectives. But the United States was wrong for the second time. It had forgotten that it was Israel's partner in the aggression against the Arabs and that the international weight encouraged Israel to turn its back against the UN resolutions which support the Arabs. The retaliation against the United States and its diplomacy was quick. The Lebanese people are determined to perpetuate their existence and affiliation to Arabism, and the Arab nation's masses have raised their voices against those who encroach on the pan-Arab cause and its sanctity. They have declared before all defeatists that Syria is their fortress, that the Syrian stand is theirs, and that what Syria decides is a pan-Arab decision emanating from the Arab masses which cannot be hampered by either U.S. conspiracies or the entities that the United States have created to rotate in its orbit.

Lebanon realized before anyone else that the United States has abandoned it in order to protect Israel's ambitions in southern Lebanon. Furthermore, Lebanon tasted the bitterness of U.S. plotting against the Lebanese people's demands. Accordingly, it decided not to place the future of its unity and independence in the hands of the U.S. ambassador in Beirut or in the hands of U.S. Secretary of State Shultz. Now, others have admitted that the United States is not credible and that it is adept in hypocrisy, deceit, and misleading —even if this admission, which King Husayn made, shows only disappointment and manuevering rather than breaking up his alliance with the United States. The king has been obliged to affirm that the United States is not concerned about any Arab right but only about fulfilling the Zionist aspirations and ambitions.

The credibility of the Syrian commitment to the well-established and firm principles stems from these facts: Syria did not oppose the United States only for the sake of objection and opposition, but because the United States has never once veiled its full alliance with Israel and its support for any Israeli aggressive act or settlement expansion at the expense of both the Arab land and people. The Reagan administration has been very open in its stands hostile to the Arabs. Reagan supported the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, concluded the strategic alliance agreements with Israel, and vetoed any UN resolution that condemns Israel or conflicts with its ambitions. On the other hand, the pro-U.S. Arabs threw themselves further into the lap of the United States as if they are deaf or blind and cannot hear or see the facts.

What will the result be? Like any other U.S. President, Reagan will only support Israel against the Arab nation. Thus, the credibility of the Syrian stand has been proven and the wagering of defeatists has failed. The admission [of King Husayn] will be useless unless it marks the beginning of a commitment to the right thing, Arabism, and the stand of the masses.

Egypt, Jordan Urged To Abandon Pro-U.S. Line

JN171503 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners: What are the Arab rulers, who have wagered on the United States for so long, waiting for before going back on their erroneous line, abandoning their losing wager, and returning to the Arab rank, which rejects capitulation, subservience, enslavement, and the humiliation of standing before the table of U.S. imperialism and Zionism for the crumbs? Have they not had enough of U.S. imperialism's long history with the Palestine question, a history which is full of treachery, deception, and hostility to the Palestinian people and their just cause and complete partiality on the side of Israeli aggression and occupation of the Arab territories?

Have they not had enough of what has become common knowledge in the past and the present, that U.S. plans and strategy in the region depend on Israel as an ally, an instrument, and a big stick against the Arab national liberation movement and the peoples of the region? Have they not had enough of U.S. insistence on giving arms to Israel to be militarily superior to all the Arab states, from Gibralter to the Gulf of Aden, and to be able to wage wars and invasions on the Arabs and to continue to occupy their territories and usurp their rights?

Have they not had engough of what has become common knowledge, that U.S. economic aid to Israel helps that Zionist entity's economy to shoulder the burdens of armament, wars, occupation, and the building of settlements? Have they not had enough information about U.S. military participation in Israeli wars and knowledge and proof that the Israeli invasion of Lebanon took place with U.S. instigation and approval?

Have they not had enough of what the United States has done to split Arab ranks, weaken the Arab front confronting Israel, and prevent any move toward Arab unity which can have an effect on the strategic balance with Israel?

Have some Arab rulers not had enough of the outcome of Anwar as-Sadat's experience with the United States, the experience which removed Egypt from the Arab fold, weakened the Arab front, upset the balance of power between the Arabs and Israel, dictated the Camp David accords, and encouraged Israel to increase its acts of aggression and invade Lebanon? Have some Arab rulers not had enough of U.S. intervention to prevent the Arab states from obtaining the necessary weapons for self-defense? Have they not had enough of what the United States

has done in Lebanon that even made Italian President Sandro Pertini say that U.S. forces went to Lebanon to help Israeli and not to establish peace?

Have they not had enough of US. refusal to support the principle of the Israeli occupation forces' withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and the principle of the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people?

Finally, have they not had enough of what U.S. President Ronald Reagan affirmed a few days ago about U.S. support for Israel, and his pledge to provide it with aid to guarantee its superiority over the Arabs, the victims of the U.S.-Israeli aggression?

Have some Arab rulers not had enough of all this so they can finally abandon the course of humiliation, subservience, compromise of the Arab nation, capitulation to Israel, and holding to the delusions of the neutral and even-handed U.S. role and of using the United States against Israel?

The U.S. rulers are not ashamed to show their complete bias toward Israel and unjustified enemity to the Arabs, all the Arabs, including the rulers who wish Washington would accept their subservience. Therefore, why should the rulers, who have erred, be ashamed to go back on their error and return to the path of adhering completely to Arab rights and the path of befriending the friend and antagonizing the enemy and cooperating with Syria and all the Arab forces who are working for the liberation of the occupied territory, regaining the usurped rights, and resisting the plans of forcing Arab surrender?

Dear listeners, the existence of the minimum level of patriotism, Arab national feelings, and personal dignity makes it incumbent on the rulers, who have erred, to go back on their error, stop dealing overtly or covertly with U.S.-Israeli capitulation plans, and give up entirely saying that the cards to a regional solution are in the hands of the United States. It is also incumbent on the Arab rulers to cancel all the agreements and commitments of subservience and humiliation.

If there are signs of vexation in Egypt concerning U.S. policy and Israeli stands, then the Arab masses, and certainly the Egyptian masses, expect, and in fact want, the Egyptian regime to cancel everything that has resulted from Camp David so the path between Egypt and the Arabs will be open both ways.

And, when King Husayn makes statements to *THE NEW YORK TIMES* criticizing the stand of the U.S.. Administration after all that it has done, is this enough and does it cancel the Jordanian regime's involvement in the contacts concerning the Reagan proposals and the plot of faking the Palestinian people's will-power ? The statements alone are not enough although they contain some objectivity in assessing U.S. policy hostile to the Arabs. In fact there must be practical steps to translate words into actions and to return Jordan to the Arab rank, which is committed to the resolutions of the Rabat, Baghdad, and Tunis summits.

UN Assistant Secretary General Concludes Visit

JN161255 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus — UN Assistant Secretary General Brian Urquhart and his delegation left Damascus today after a 3-day visit to Syria. During the visit, Urquhart held talks with Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar', and conveyed a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from the UN secretary general.

Shamir 12 Mar Letter to Shultz on Lebanon

TA190955 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 19 Mar 84 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Niva Lanir]

[Excerpt] "We are willing to consider the possibility of international forces being deployed between our lines and those of the Syrians (in Lebanon), if a separation of forces agreement is achieved." This was said in a letter sent by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to George Shultz. The letter, which bears the date 12 March 1984, adds: "The UNIFIL forces should be deployed north of our security zone (in southern Lebanon)."

At the beginning of the letter, Shamir says (in connection with the abrogation of the 17 May agreement): "Israel will have to take steps to ensure the minimum security requirements to which our citizens are entitled. At this stage, this minimum can only be guaranteed by our direct intervention. (UN) Peace forces are not effective in southern Lebanon, and the countries contributing to them will certainly not want to endanger the lives of their soldiers in long and costly policing activities."

Shamir goes on to detail Israel's hope of maintaining the links and ties with all the leaders and communities in Lebanon who so desire. Shamir says: "We will strive to attain agreements with the local population in southern Lebanon, agreements which will guarantee our security and allow us to hold the smallest possible force there in order to prevent the infiltration of terrorist elements, and the renewal of terror."

Shamir ends his letter saying that he hopes the cooperation between Israel and the United States "will foil the Syrian hope to make the abrogation of the 17 May agreement a precedent which will bring a similar fate to the peace treaty with Egypt and the Camp David accords."

UNIFIL Officers Optimistic on Lebanon Deployment

TA181003 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 18 Mar 84 p 3

[Report by correspondent in the north Shim'on Weiss]

[Text] Over the weekend, senior UNIFIL officers in southern Lebanon and UN liaison officers in Israel, Syria, and Lebanon expressed qualified optimism about the possibility of deploying UN force in the area south of the Al-Awwali River, in the eastern sector, and in Beirut to replace the Multinational Force and to serve as a buffer in the framework of security arrangements in southern Lebanon.

This optimism comes in the wake of the meetings UN Assistant Secretary General Brian Urquhart held over the weekend in Damascus with the new Syrian foreign minister and senior officers in the Syrian General Staff, in which he presented plans for the deployment of a UN force in various areas in Lebanon.

The senior officers did not reject Urquhart's plan stright away, hence the qualified optimism of the UNIFIL and UN officers.

Urquhart left for talks in Jordan yesterday. At the beginning of this week, apparently on Monday, he is scheduled to hold a meeting with Prime Minister Shamir and Defense Minister Arens in Jerusalem. Urquhart will later go to Beirut to conclude the issues related to the redeployment of UNIFIL and other UN forces in Lebanon.

It has also been learned that the inclusion of UNIFIL units in the security arrangements in southern Lebanon, and the replacement of the Multinational Force in Beirut, have been discussed at the Lausanne conference. It has been learned that both Israel and Lebanon agree to this proposal, and that Syria actually remains the only obstacle. As said, Urquhart went to Syria in an attempt to obtain the consent of its leaders.

At the same time, pressure on Urquhart and UNIFIL commanders has been increasing because UNIFIL's mandate in southern Lebanon is due to expire on 17 April and some of the countries participating in the force are threatening that if a solution is not found regarding the future purpose of the force, they would reconsider their participation in it.

Government Opposed to 'Active' UNIFIL Role

TA181828 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Israel will not agree to a UNIFIL force playing an active security role in south Lebanon. This position was made clear by a senior Israeli officer [as heard] on the eve of a visit by UN Under Secretary Brian Urquhart to Jerusalem tomorrow. David Essing reports:

[Essing — live or recorded] The official said Israeli leaders will listen to what the UN representative has to say, but Israel's position was clear. Jerusalem would not agree to UNIFIL being part of the security arrangements that Israel is seeking in south Lebanon to protect its northern border. The official explained that the United Nations is good at filling the supervisory role. This was the case in Sinai, where both Israel and Egypt want peace. In Sinai, the UN forces had proved effective at smoothing out misunderstandings and mistakes, but south Lebanon was a different story. The official said that an enforcing role was needed in south Lebanon, a role to keep out the terrorists who would try to infiltrate again and attack Israel. The official said emphatically: This is something UNIFIL cannot do. The official noted that UNIFIL was sent to south Lebanon to keep out hostile elements after Israel's Litani Operation in 1978, and he added: Our experience with UNIFIL was not very successful, and we had to go back in against the PLO with the Peace for Galilee operation. The official did not rule out some UN role after the security arrangements were in place.

The official repeated that an Israeli decision on redeployment in south Lebanon was not imminent. Asked if the Israeli Cabinet was waiting for the outcome of the Lebanese reconciliation talks in Lausanne, the official replied: That's an intelligent guess.

[Announcer] The UN official is scheduled to see Prime Minister Shamir, Defense Minister Arens, and Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche.

Syrian-Shi'ite Plan To Increase Pressure in S. Lebanon

TA191031 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Mar 84, pp 1,7

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi, Gad Becker]

[Excerpt] It is estimated in Jerusalem that Syria will not object to new security arrangements in southern Lebanon if these are reached between Al-Jumayyil and Israel.

However, the Syrians presumably will not agree to such arrangements being part of an official agreement, and will only consent to them within the context of the 1948 cease-fire.

It would seem that at this stage President al-Jumayyil has no intention of closing down the Israeli mission in Beirut, and that he is interested in maintaining the link with Jerusalem, despite abrogating the Israel-Lebanon agreement.

According to sources in Israel, Syrian President al-Asad promised Al-Jumayyil that in return for the abrogation of the agreement, he would restrict the PLO presence on Lebanese soil. However, he did not undertake to withdraw the Syrian forces. It is thought in Israel that there may nonetheless be some Syrian troop withdrawals, but these will only take place in the wake of certain developments in the field — such as an Israeli withdrawal.

Jerusalem is following with some concern indications of a Syrian-Shi'ite plan aimed at stepping up pressure on Israel in southern Lebanon. The sources in Jerusalem anticipate an increase in Shi'ite attempts to attack IDF troops.

Security Sources Say No Plan To Withdraw Soon

TA181635 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] In the foreseeable future at least, Defense Minister Moshe Arens will not ask the Cabinet to approve any plans to redeploy the IDF in Lebanon because of the fluid political and military situation in Beirut. Our military correspondent Doron Rosenblum reports:

[Begin recording] A defense source told me today that the public expects the IDF to leave Lebanon soon, but that this is a false assumption. The initial stage of discussions on a possible new deployment in Lebanon has indeed ended but, at this point, there is no intention of bringing up any proposals connected with the IDF's redeployment in Lebanon to the Cabinet for discussion and approval.

The defense establishment, defense sources stress, has not made any decision connected with redeployment in Lebanon. When will a decision be made? It seems this will not happen in the near future. The sources are cautious not to use words like freezing or suspending the withdrawal, but they say that the IDF will not withdraw before the military and political situation in Beirut becomes clear and stabilizes. As long as the army in South Lebanon — which Israel is supporting, training, and equipping, and which is supposed to relieve the IDF of the job of preventing terrorists from infiltrating into southern Lebanon — does not prove it can stand on its own feet, Israel will not withdraw. Defense Ministry sources say that it does not seem that these and other conditions will be fulfilled soon. [end recording]

IDF Casualties Reported in Lebanon 18 March

Incident Near Sidon

TA180954 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0752 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] [Place not given] 18 Mar 84 — The IDF spokesman announces: An IDF soldier was wounded this morning in the eastern outskirts of Sidon when an explosive charge that was planted on the side of the road exploded as an IDF patrol drove through the area. The wounded soldier was evacuated to the hospital. The IDF forces began a search.

Incident in Eastern Sector

TA190759 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0753 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] An IDF soldier was very slightly injured in an incident last night west of Kamid al-Lawz in the eastern sector of Lebanon. Two RGP's and small-arms fire were directed at two IDF command cars. Our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, reports that the soldier was treated on the spot and returned to his unit. One of the command cars was damaged.

Phalangist Commander Afram on Lausanne Talks

TA181932 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Interview with Phalangist Commander Fadi Afram by Ehud Ya'ari in Beirut; date not given — videotaped in English]

[Excerpt] [Afram] What's happening in Lausanne is one of the steps of the Syrianization process which started by the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, and the results of what will happen in Lausanne will basically be in the context of the Syrian plans.

This is why we say we are not concerned, we will oppose any concrete results which will be against our interests, or against the interests of the Christian community.

[Ya'ari] What are you expecting the Syrians are going to do to impose their dictates in Lausanne? Which kind of dictates will they obtain from the president and the congressmen?

[Afram] Well, till now they have succeeded to really put the official Lebanon in their grips, and they will use the official structure of Lebanon, meaning a new government, to implement their decisions.

The decisions, or these decisions that will be taken in the forthcoming future, will basically be in this Syrian process to really put a handhold or a grip, a complete grip, on the Christian area which till now has been out of their control.

Lebanese Army Brigade Soldiers in South Lebanon

TA170932 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] About 250 soldiers of the Lebanese Army, most of them of the 4th brigade which disintegrated in the battles in Beirut's suburbs, are still present in southern Lebanon. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that according to the instructions of the Beirut Defense Ministry, they are supposed to report daily to a Lebanese Army base in Tyre but only few obey this. Some of the brigade's officers sold eight trucks loaded with military equipment to the Phalange, although the IDF allowed the Lebanese Army to transfer this equipment to its bases in the south. The Phalange are in possession of 40 armored personnel carriers left behind by the Lebanese Army's 4th brigade.

Rabin: Look at Husayn's Deeds, Not Declarations

TA180943 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 18 Mar 84 p 2

[Report by correspondent in the north Shim'on Weiss]

[Text] MK Yitzhaq Rabin has stated that one should look at King Husayn's latest deeds rather than his declarations, since there is a big and significant difference between the two regarding the attitude toward Israel and the United States. Speaking before Jewish and Arab heads of councils at Kefar Tavor on Friday, MK Rabin said he was not impressed by Husayn's remarks in an interview with *THE NEW YORK TIMES* that he would not be joining the peace process in the near future. According to Rabin, one should pay close attention to the words "in the near future." Rabin said that the king had taken a logical and wise step, knowning that during an election year the U.S. Administration is bound to come up with all kinds of ideas aimed at helping the president get reelected.

David Kimche Pays Secret Visit to Africa

TA180519 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer has learned that the director general of the Foreign Ministry last week paid a secret visit to Africa to attempt to tighten relations between Israel and countries of the African Continent. In the course of the week, our correspondent tried to find out the whereabouts of David Kimche, and Foreign Ministry sources told him that Kimche had been compelled to take leave because he had accumulated too many leave days. Our political correspondent points out that efforts to expand Israel's diplomatic ties with African countries, except for Zaire and Liberia, have failed so far.

Economic Ties Discussed

TA191008 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Mar 84 p 7

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] David Kimche, director general of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, secretly spent 4 days in two African countries which do not maintain diplomatic relations with Israel.

During his stay, he discussed with the leaders of these countries the possibility of establishing economic ties with Israel. At present, Israel maintains economic ties with more than 10 African countries, with official representations in some of them, albeit these do not carry diplomatic status.

Government 'Very Carefully' Following Sudan Tension

TA191013 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Mar p 7

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi]

[Excerpt] Jerusalem is following recent developments in Sudan very carefully, the primary development being heightened political and military tension between Egypt and Sudan on one side versus Libya on the other. Israel has hinted to Egypt that it will abide by the peace treaty between the two, hence Egypt can now address itself fully to the crisis with Libya, mobilize forces, and concentrate them in coordination with Sudan in accordance with the agreements existing between those two countries.

Alignment To Submit Motion To Dissolve Knesset

TA171740 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Next week the Alignment will propose the dissolution of the Knesset. The Alignment wants to put the proposal to a vote, although the TAMI faction's support is not guaranteed.

Soviet Peace Delegation Arrives March 16

TA161348 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] At the invitation of sixteen members of Knesset, four prominent Soviet citizens arrived in Israel today. The delegation is composed of Yuri Barbash, editor in chief of *SOVETSKAYA KULTURA*, a Soviet cultural paper, and chairman of the Soviet Public Committee for Solidarity with Palestinian Arabs; Alexander Krasnov, head of the African and Middle Eastern Department at the Novosti news agency; Professor Wilhelm Gruend, chief of tuberculosis studies in the Soviet Union; and Yuri Druzdov, head of the African and Middle Eastern Department of the Soviet Peace Committee. The last visit by a similar delegation to Israel was in 1980. Tony Gadot reports:

[Begin recording][Gadot] In a prepared statement, Yuri Barbash says that he hopes the visit will contribute to progress in the search for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. Alexander Krasnov says that during the visit, the delegation will not be meeting officially with any political party in Israel.

[Krasnov] You see, we are not a party delegation, so we could not divide all the men we meet as right-wing or left-wing. We are a delegation of the Soviet public.

[Gadot] Krasnov also said that they will not be visiting either the

West Bank or Gaza.

[Krasnov] We consider these territories as occupied Arab territories, and according to the international rules, we do not want to visit them.

[Gadot] Asked whether there is a possibility of renewing diplomatic relations between Israel and the Soviet Union, Krasnov said:

[Krasnov] That depends on some conditions. Sure, all our leaders many times said that they want to have relations with Israel, if it gives up its aggressive policy.

[Gadot] I asked Yuri Druzdov why Jews are being banned from immigrating to Israel.

[Druzdov] All the Soviet citizens that have (?all the ground) according to the Soviet law to travel and to live abroad take advantage of this right. In certain cases of people in the USSR, receiving letters inviting them to join their families, whereas in reality they had no relatives in Israel.

[Gadot] The Soviets were met at the airport by MK Tawfiq Tubi, leader of the Israeli Communist Party. [end recording]

Opposition Members Meet Soviets

TA171232 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] MK Ora Namir and reserves Major General Mati Peled have welcomed the representatives of the Soviet Peace Committee currently visiting Israel. MK Namir told the guests that the Israeli public receives them warmly and expects that their visit will lead to improved Israeli-Soviet relations. She asked that Jews who so desire be allowed to emigrate to Israel and that the learning and teaching of Hebrew be permitted. The members of the Soviet delegation said that the Soviet Union is prepared to renew diplomatic relations with Israel but on condition that Israel's policy — which they term as aggressive — be changed. They rejected the claim that speaking of Hebrew in the Soviet Union is banned, saying that the Hebrew language is being taught and research material on Hebrew literature is available in the Moscow and Leningrad Universities. Our correspondent Asher Schwartz reports that these remarks were made in a meeting between the Soviet Peace Committee members and represenatives of the Labor Party, MAPAM, RAKAH, and the SHELI and alternative movements.

MAPAM Delegation Meets Visitors

TA181842 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1835 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv, 18 Mar (ITIM) — A MAPAM delegation met today with the visiting Soviet peace committee delegation. The Soviet delegation hosted the MAPAM delegation at its hotel because the delegation does not represent the party and so it does not meet with representatives of other parties at their headquarters.

New Soviet-Made Radar Station in Lebanon Reported

TA180905 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 Mar 84 p 1

["Exclusive" report from London by Sha'ul Tzadqa]
[Text] A sophisticated Soviet-made radar station is being built near Mount Sannin, in the Syrian held territory of Lebanon. Authoritative intelligence sources in London reported this, and added that the station, which looks like a gigantic concave plate, looks different from the Soviet stations known to the West so far. The special form of the station is meant to protect its equipment from electronic counterdevices which were used by the Israeli Air Force during the war. It has also been learned that the Syrians have surrounded the station with antiaircraft missile batteries.

IDF Spokesman Comments

TA181126 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] The IDF has no knowledge about a new radar station being built by the Soviets near Mount Sannin in Lebanon, or about antiaircraft missiles being brought from Syria to Lebanon to protect the new station. This was stated by the IDF spokesman in answer to a question put to him by our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal. This morning, intelligence sources in London reported on a sophisticated radar station which the Soviets are building near Mount Sannin, and which is different from all the Soviet radar devices known to the West. It was also reported that the Soviets have surrounded the station with missiles to protect it.

'Arafat Discusses West Bank Meeting in Interview

TA180939 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 18 Mar 84 p 2

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] In an interview with the East Jerusalem newspaper *AL-BAYDAR-AS-SIYASI*, PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat said that his meeting with the West Bank delegation was important, but he cannot divulge everything that was said in that meeting, and the time will come to disclose all the details. On another issue, 'Arafat said that PLO members continue to meet with democratic and progressive Israelis, as was done by 'Isam Sartawi, and that these talks are in accordance with the decision of the PNC. Our correspondent notes that this is not the first time that 'Arafat has granted interviews to East Jerusalem newspapers. *AL-FAJR* has interviewed 'Arafat several times. In order not to break the law, these interviews are held through a third party.

Molotov Cocktail Thrown at West Bank Mukhtar's Home

TA171611 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Last night a Molotov cocktail was thrown at the Qalandiyah refugee camp mukhtar's home, which is north of Jerusalem. The Molotov cocktail landed inside the house which then caught fire, but nobody was hurt.

ALGERIA

Guinean President Arrives in Algiers

LD181646 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Algiers, 18 Mar (APS) — Ahmed Sekou Toure, president of the Republic of Guinea and secretary general of the Guinean Democratic Party, arrived in Algiers this morning at the head of an important delegation on a friendly working 2-day visit. The Guinean head of state was welcomed by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN Party.

After listening to the Algerian and Guinean national anthems, President Sekou Toure together with President Chadli Bendjedid reviewed a formation of republican guards which presented the salute. He then shook hands with members of the Political Bureau and senior officials in the party and state, and members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Algeria and the Guinean community in our country.

At the airport's VIP lounge, President Sekou Toure made a statement to newsmen. He said: My visit to Algeria will allow me and President Chadli Bendjedid to study deeply all international issues, and particularly African issues. He added: I am aware of the fact that the historical development of Africa is proceeding in the direction of searching for freedom and strengthening the bases of African unity which must be distanced form all forms of influence which hamper its march. These deep aspirations are held by all the nations of Africa in order to prove themselves respectable entities and powers in the world.

In conclusion, the Guinean president said: I believe that historical causes still direct the activities of all the African popular organizations. I am optimistic. Revolution is the symbol of optimism in the future and we must triumph.

Upper Volta Defense Minister Arrives for Visit

LD161422 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani, minister of defense and special envoy of Upper Volta's President Thomas Sankara, arrived in Algiers this morning with a message from the latter for President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and FLN secretary general.

LIBYA

JANA Reports Bombing of Omdurman Radio

LD161739 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1708 GMT 16 Mar 84

["The Destruction of the Sudanese Radio and TV Station" — JANA headline]

[Text] Cairo, 16 Mar (JANA) — The Egyptian MENA and the ASSOCIATED PRESS have reported that a state of emergency was declared in Sudan Friday afternoon, while indications point to an attempted revolution by the Sudanese Air Force against the regime of the lackey Numayri.

According to the official statement issued by the Khartoum government, which broadcasts using the facilities of Radio London [presumably the BBC] and the ASSOCIATED PRESS, the Omdurman radio station was bombed from the air at 1130 Friday morning, 16 March. The situation is still unclear in Sudan.

The news about the destruction of Omdurman radio comes at a time when the popular revolution is escalating in the south of Sudan, increasing the dangers to the regime of the lackey Numayri.

Sudanese Minister Cited

LD172115 Tripoli JANA in English 1903 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, Jumada Thani 13, March 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The information minister of hireling Numayri's regime, Muhammad Salihin, officially admitted today that the Omdurman television and radio station have stopped functioning after being destroyed by an aircraft belonging to the Sudanese Air Force yesterday morning.

In an interview broadcast by the Sudanese Government's news agency this afternoon, he said that programs are broadcast by the so-called Wadi Nil [Nile valley] radio which broadcasts its programs through Sawt al-'Arab [Voice of the Arabs] radio waves in Egypt. He also said that the Egyptian regime's radio stations and newspapers since yesterday took over the broadcasting of the programs and information prepared by the Sudanese Government, following the destruction of the Omdurman radio and television station.

JANA Cites BBC Report

LD171944 Tripoli JANA in English 1741 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, Jumada Thani 13, March 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The British Broadcasting Corporation, quoting its correspondent in East Africa, reported this morning that there was evidence proving that the airplane which bombed the radio and television stations belonged to the Sudanese Air Force, and the person who piloted it was one of the pilots of Numayri's regime.

London Group 'Confirms' Bombing

LD162358 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2300 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The Sudanese Democratic Union in London has confirmed the bombing by the Sudanese Air Force of the Sudanese radio and television station in Omdurman. A union source has stated that this is an integral part of the escalating popular revolution against the Numayri regime. He appealed to the Sudanese people's masses to be cohesive in order to destroy this collapsing regime.

Numayri Allegations on Bombing Raid Refuted

LD172102 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1937 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Tripoli, 17 March — The popular committee of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison today issued a statement refuting the allegation of the ruler of Sudan that the Jamahiriyah was behind the air raid on the Omdurman broadcasting station. Here is the text of the statement:

The Popular Committee of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison categorically refutes the lies made by the ruler of Sudan who said that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah is behind the raid on the Omdurman broadcasting station that took place on the evening of 16 March 1984. It provides the following clarification of the situation:

It has become customary for regimes which face popular revolution and which are exposed to blows from their people to try and accuse the Jamahiriyah, because it is a revolutionary state that supports revolution and aligns itself on the side of the cause of freedom everywhere. The events taking place in Sudan today are no more than the result of the popular revolution which embraced all popular sections, and this includes the Sudanese Armed Forces. Consequently, it is not surprising that the air raid on the Omdurman broadcasting station was the action of the revolutionary elements in the Sudanese Air Force.

The Khartoum ruler has persisted in blaming the revolutionary Jamahiriyah whenever the Sudanese people tighten the grip. The Jamahiriyah challenges the Khartoum ruler to provide any evidence of truth in his false, contradictory charges. Is it conceivable that the movement of a foreign plane can be monitored, its course followed, and its identity and make known without an effort to intercept and chase it, and open fire on it? This is a farcical matter which calls for mockery and ridicule, and if not farcical it points out that the Sudanese Armed Forces in Khartoum — particularly the air defense and the Air Force — had full knowledge of this and gave assistance for the raid to reach its target in the heart of Omdurman.

The Sudanese people know the Khartoum ruler has long made false allegations about Sudan being exposed to external aggression as a pretext for gaining the sympathy of the U.S. Administration and the colonialist forces, to justify granting them bases and military facilities and asking them to intervene to prop up his regime, which is about to fall. As the Khartoum ruler has failed to confront the popular revolution which reached the outskirts of his palace, he is trying to involve Egypt in a war with the Jamahiriyyah and Ethiopia, and with the GUNT [Transitional Government of National Unity] Government in Chad, and to let it drown with him in the Sudanese jungle. One is bewildered that the Egyptian regime would respond to the absurdities of the Khartoum ruler, a regime which took Egypt out of the confrontation with the Zionist enemy on the pretext that it does not want war.

Finally, the popular committee of the General People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison is fully convinced that the Khartoum ruler is reaping what he has sown against his people and his neighbors, and that if he continues sowing the wind we warn him that he will reap the tempest which will destroy everything. The revolution exists and is growing bigger in Sudan. What he is experiencing currently is nothing but the warning winds, and as long as he insists on confronting the revolution and unless he returns to the right path, there will be no choice but to overthrow him for good in the revolution.

Arab League, OAU Contacted

LD181517 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Within its moves to expose the imperialist, reactionary designs against the Arab Libyan people, the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison informed the General Secretariat of the Arab League about the contents of the statement issued by the committee yesterday which contained the Jamahiriyah's catagorical denial of the lackey Numayri's allegations that the Jamahiriyah is linked with the destruction of the radio and television stations in Omdurman.

It also informed the OAU of the Arab Libyan statement issued by the committee in which it categorically refuted the allegations of the lackey Numayri, affirmed that the Jamahiriyah has no connection with the revolution attempt carried out by the Sudanese Air Force, and stated that the allegations of the lackey Numayri were nothing but a pretext to invite the American forces to intervene in Sudan.

Tripoli Views Unrest, 'Revolution' in Sudan

LD171618 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] The BBC, citing its East Africa correspondent, said this morning that there are indications that the aircraft which bombed the two radio stations in Omdurman belong to the Sudanese Air Force and was piloted by one of the pilots opposed to Numayri's regime. With regard to the critical situation in Sudan and the latest developments there, we give this detailed report:

Arab and international news agencies and radio stations reported the bombing of the Omdurman radio station. REUTER, AFP, UPI, MENA, Radio Cairo, APS, INA, KUNA, GULF NEWS AGENCY, France-Inter and the BBC all reported that a state of emergency has been declared in Sudan. BBC radio confirmed this morning that there are indications that the aircraft which bombed Omdurman belongs to the Sudanese Air Force, piloted by one of the pilots opposed to rule of the tail Numayri. These people are moving from the south by means of a popular war which is achieving victories every day over the rule of the tail. Numayri has made the Sudanese people taste the bitterness of humiliation under a terrorist police rule which has filled the prisons and detention centers with the free men of Sudan, who oppose the arrogant behavior of the tail Numayri.

Numayri fluctuates between throwing the Sudanese people into dark prisons and releasing them en masse, and declaring religious repentance and resorting to religion as a cover by issuing legal punishment laws which he implements as he wishes. The Sudanese people disapprove of this behavior. Judges are resigning en

masse because of the tail Numayri's interference in their judgements. The ruler of the Sudan was forced to concede to the judges' demand that he should stop his interference in their affairs which has become a topic of conversation for the Sudanese people.

As for the Armed Forces, they are the most dangerous element for Numayri's regime. Therefore, Sudanese officers and soldiers are expelled from military service each time an attempt against the tail Numayri is made. AFP said a serious wave of discontent dominates the ranks of the Sudanese Army because of the regime's attitude toward the Armed Forces. Uprisings and revolutionary attempts have become familiar in Khartoum. And each time the tail suffers an hallucination and loses his mind, he sends hundreds to the gallows in order to get rid of them. Since Numayri came to power in Sudan, this Arab country has seen popular unrest, either from the Armed Forces or from the popular masses who have been exhausted by the oppression, arbitrariness and appalling poverty in which they live.

And these days, when the fire of popular revolution is getting more fierce, Sudanese doctors announce that they will resign en masse on 24 March because of deteriorating living conditions and the poor state of the health services. The Sudan has remained a nonparticipant in Arab and African events since the arrival of Numayri in power. The country retreated to backwardness and poverty and the country's public amenities were destroyed because of the policy of the tail Numayri, especially in the economic field, because the ruler of Sudan is one of those who are frantically gambling on the American role in the Arab homeland and Africa.

As a result of this agent role played by Numayri in the interest of U.S. imperialism and its monopolist companies, he has used all the resources of the Sudanese people, which greatly contributed to the deterioration of the economic conditions and caused the emigration of millions of Sudanese people, in order to earn a living and to escape the oppression and arbitrary rule.

This is a general look at conditions in Sudan, which is witnessing a general movement of discontent, which has reached the extent of armed popular revolution in the south, and the bombing of Omdurman radio station yesterday. The tail Numayri is facing his final death throes and is holding onto power despite repeated attempts to topple him, which have increased in the last 2 months. It seems that the valley of the Sudanese Nile will have a hotter summer this year.

JANA: Mubarak, U.S. Envoy Discuss Sudan Plot

LD191002 Tripoli JANA in English 0921 GMT 19 Mar 84

["Mubarak and U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Discuss U.S. Plan To Occupy Sudan" — JANA headline]

[Text] Cairo, Jumada Thani 15, March 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The head of the Egyptian regime, Husni Mubarak, held several contacts with the head of the American administration, Ronald Reagan, related to the conspiracy to be implemented by the Egyptian regime against the Sudanese people so as to protect hireling Numayri from the popular revolution facing him.

The U.S. ambassador to Egypt yesterday announced that Husni Mubarak exchanged letters with U.S. President Reagan following the attack by a Sudanese Air Force plane against the Omdurman radio station. The U.S. ambassador was speaking to reporters after a one-hour meeting with the head of the Egyptian regime. The ambassador did not, however, give any details on the discussions during the meeting, but reports from Washington confirm that the U.S. Administration and the Egyptian regime are planning to ferry urgent military equipment to Sudan.

Political observers in Egypt believe the meeting between the American ambassador and the Egyptian regime's president took up this very issue.

Fatah, PFLP-GC Officials Arrive in Tripoli

LD182105 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1810 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Tripoli, 18 Mar JANA — Brothers Ahmad Jibril, the secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC); Abu Musa and Abu Khalid al-'Amlah, members of the transitional revolutionary leadership of Fatah; and Brother Fadhl Shurur, member of the Political Bureau and official spokesman of the PFLP-GC, this afternoon arrived in Tripoli.

Brother Abu Musa made a statement to the JANA correspondent at Tripoli International Airport in which he said that they were very happy to be in this dear country, the Jamahiriyah, where we come continually to deliberate and discuss issues which concern the future of our Arab nation — especially after the recent events that took place in Lebanon after the abrogation of the agreement of shame between the Lebanese Government and the Zionist enemy, which the Jamahiriyah had a principal role in achieving, due to the politically, morally and financially supportive stand it displayed. He added that we, from our position in the Palestine revolution, always viewed the Jamahiriyah as a point of hope for our Arab nation in supporting us to challenge U.S. imperialism and the Zionist attack, and the schemes hatched against the Arab nation.

MOROCCO

King Urges Reagan To Prevent Embassy Move

LD171352 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Following attempts by certain circles in the United States to have the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv transferred to the occupied holy city of Jerusalem, His Majesty King Hassan II — chairman of the 12th Arab summit conference, chairman of the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference and chairman of the Jerusalem Committee — has sent a message to U.S. President Ronald Reagan stressing the danger that might result from these attempts. Here is the text of the royal message:

Thanks be to God alone, and only his reign lasts.
From Hassan II, King of the Kingdom of Morocco to His

Excellency Mr Ronald Reagan, President of the United States, Washington,
Mr President, and our great friend,
Warm greetings, accompanied by the most sincere sentiments of friendship and appreciation. We were deeply touched when we learned that the U.S. Congress now has a draft law calling for unconditional consolidation — and a consolidation which has not been evaluated — of the legislative and administrative measures and steps taken by Israel aimed at changing the character and status of holy Jerusalem. The entire Islamic League and all those people who love peace and justice in general were touched even more strongly and deeply.

We hope, and the whole world hopes with us, that the draft law mentioned above will be effectively fought and ultimately rejected, thanks to your insight and your committment to the principles and basics of law, and particularly because of the objective which you desire for your country — that of being one of the prominent protectors of international legitimacy.

The character and status of holy Jerusalem have for many years been a cause for anxiety in the United Nations. The UN General Assembly and the Security Council have adopted many resolutions in this regard, and all of them confirm clearly that the acquisition of land by force is unacceptable. All these resolutions, while recalling the need to protect and preserve the unique spiritual and religious aspects of holy Jerusalem, confirm that all the legislative and administrative measures taken by Israel — the occupying country — aimed at changing the character and status of Jerusalem are measures which have no validity in law. Therefore, they are null and void and should be abolished.

All these sound resolutions were taken without the United States using at any time its right of veto. Therefore, your country is obliged by those resolutions, and instead of trying to violate them your country should lead those who respect them and want to preserve them. The brave and farsighted policy which you have occupied at the supreme post has contributed to a portrayal of your country's greatness and strength; and, indeed, your country is true to this picture.

There is, however, real greatness and strength only in respect for legitimacy and full implementation of undertakings. We are confident that you will struggle with all your power to prevent the shattering of all the credibility which your country enjoys in the world through shortsighted action. You appreciate more than others the importance of your role, and that of the United States in relations for the establishment and preservation of an international balance. As for countries which have no means of defending themselves other than resorting to law and legitimacy, you are the protecting wall against arbitrariness, ignorance and surrender. Electoral considerations, now matter how legitimate at the purely local level, cannot allow the United States to turn its back on the law and legitimacy to which it has contributed in the interest of maintaining peace and stability in the world.

The credibility balance which you have created for the United States, thanks to tireless efforts, can only be preserved by paying this price. Your country cannot shoulder the task entrusted to it by history unless it continues, in all conditions and circumstances, to meticuously respect the law and strongly adhere to the principles and basics of legitimacy. This noble task is connected with a responsibility whose weight you appreciate, and because of this we are confident that your courage and brilliance will triumph over actions which are irresponsible and which lack insight. These actions, if they become a reality one day, will serve only the enemies of peace, justice and law.

In my capacity as current chairman of the 12th Arab summit, current chairman of the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference and chairman of the Jerusalem Committee, we appeal to you in the confidence that the trust placed in you by billions of men — and which we express to you — will find a suitable echo which our appeal deserves.

Mr President, and great friend, please accept our highest sentiments of appreciation.

[Signed] Hassan II, King of Morocco

Guinea's President Sekou Toure Concludes Visit

King Receives Visitor

LD172151 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Hassan II has received his great guest, Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure, who arrived this evening in Fes on an informal visit to Morocco.

On his current visit to Morocco, the Guinean president is accompanied by an important delegation: including the chairman of the National Assembly; the ministers of foreign affairs, higher education, technical education and information; and the chairman of protocol.

Toure Departs for Algeria

LD181317 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Excerpt] President of Guinea Ahmed Sekou Toure left Fes this morning for Algeria on an official visit.

9 Reported Sentenced Over January Violence

LD181901 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Rabat, 18 March (APS) — It was learned from the Moroccan capital Saturday that after a trial which had lasted a full month, 91 persons were on Friday sentenced to terms of imprisonment varying from 3 months to 2 years, stemming from charges of breaking the law during the bloody events which took place at the end of January in Morocco.

One of the accused was sentenced to 2 years and two others were sentenced to 1 year each and a fine of 1,000 dirhans. That is the equivalent of about 1,400 Algerian dinars. The other defendents were sentenced to terms ranging from 3 to 8 months'imprisonment.

Lawyers explained that the accused were students of secondary schools and teachers and militants of the youth organization, which is affiliated with the Socialist Union of Popular Forces and the party of Progress and Socialism, whose leader is 'Ali Ya'ta.

SUDAN

Government Reacts Strongly to Air Raid

Numayri Accuses Libya

JN161753 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1737 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Mar (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri is holding Libya responsible for the air raid on Omdurman.

In statements following his meeting today with Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, Egyptian deputy prime minister and defense minister, the president revealed that last night Al-Qadhdhafi contacted Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and asked Mubarak to mediate between him and Sudan. The president added that whenever Al-Qadhdhafi acts in this way he follows it up with a plotting operation.

The president added: We will move diplomatically, as before, and will inform all the Arab, African and other ambassadors to Sudan of the incident. So far, we have informed the closest friendly ambassadors who communicated the incident to their governments.

President Numayri indicated that President Mubarak was informed of what had happened and an agreement was reached to hold a meeting of the two countries' Joint Defense Council, in order to adopt measures which would prevent the repetition of what has happened.

In his statements, the president denied that Al-Qadhdhafi had achieved a political or military victory from the attack. He said: The attack achieved for us a very large political aim because Al-Qadhdhafi claims his alliance with the unionists and Ansar. Numayri indicated in this regard that two of the bombs dropped by the bomber hit the houses of Hasan 'Awadallah and As-Siddiq al-Mahdi. The president continued: This is a lesson to those allied with Al-Qadhdhafi.

In his statements, the president continued: Al-Qadhdhafi's operation confirms Al-Qadhdhafi's plotting and joint operations against Sudan through coordination with Ethiopia, contrary to Al-Qadhdhafi's claims that he neither plots against Sudan nor supports Ethiopia. The president indicated that for 2 weeks Al-Qadhdhafi has been attacking Sudan, claiming that there is an airlift going on between the United States and Sudan. Al-Qadhdhafi also complained to several quarters, particularly the Arab League. The president said: The operation concocted by Al-Qadhdhafi gives a political opportunity from which we and our news media should benefit in order to make a sound analysis of Al-Qadhdhafi's allegations and plotting against Sudan and its people.

More on Numayri Comments

EA171829 Khartoum SUNA in English 1625 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, Mar. 17 — President Numayri pointed out that the Libyan air raid on Omdurman Friday and the bombing of civilian targets in this town are another circle in the chain of the Libyan regime's conspiracies against Sudan.

In an inauguration address before the Islamic cultural session here today, the president said this new Libyan aggression is a repetition of similar former ones, though it differs in the shape. The attempt was designed and executed by folly, which has been a characteristic of the Libyan colonel, the enemy of mankind and peace and unity everywhere, the president added. The president confirmed that yesterday's raid comes within the context of Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi's on the unity of Sudan. [as received] It was the same plot and the same failure that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi received in all his designs against Sudan, Numayri said.

The president enumerated Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's failed plots against Sudan, which included his conspiracies against the national unity, his unsuccessful bids to infiltrate through Sudan's western and southeastern borders, and the attempts of his proxies and mercenaries, who, in his name, held weapons to subvert Sudan's national unity. President Numayri explained that it has now been proven without any room for doubt or argument that the failed air raid which was directed against the Omdurman radio station was started from an air base in Al-Kufrah, Libya, and returned to the same site.

The president said that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi wanted to silence the voice of Sudan, represented in its radio station, ignoring the fact that this would not happen unless all the Sudanese people were eradicated. The president confirmed that the voice of Sudan is the voice of its sons, who, at the hours of the conspiracy, facing all the challenges, went to inspect the positions which had been stricken by the Libyan raid.

He added that the masses took to the streets in an uproarious demonstration, led by the leaders of the political organization and the national action, confirming their readiness to become martyrs, along with their brothers in the people's armed forces, to defend the dignity and pride of their country.

In his address before the opening meeting of the Islamic culture session, Numayri said: Sudan and the whole world know that Al-Qadhdhafi is implementing a Soviet strategy whose target is not only Sudan but the entire African continent. He affirmed that Sudan knows the dimensions of the tripartite alliance of which Al-Qadhdhafi claims leadership. We know that Sudan is not the final goal of this alliance, but represents one of its stages, Numayri said. Numayri further stressed that Sudan is in favor of peace, but the peace which Sudan wants does not mean giving up. On the contrary, it means brave resistance and the ability to crush any aggression, whatever its source, whatever its size.

President Numayri explained that the joint defence pact between Sudan and Egypt has become effective since yesterday. He added that the joint defence forces have taken their positions to protect the strategic points in Sudan. Numayri added: Sudan is never

alone, and will never be alone to face the Libyan attacks and those who hide behind them.

Central Leadership Condemns Bombing
JN162047 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1950 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Mar (SUNA) — The SSU Central Leadership has affirmed that the people of Sudan and the Army of Sudan are capable of protecting their homeland, territory and air space, and of preserving their independence, honor and dignity. In a statement issued this evening, the leadership described the criminal air attack to which the city of Omdurman was exposed as a new link in the chain of plotting against Sudan. It also shows the enormity of the savage onslaught to which our country is exposed. The following is text of the Central Leadership's statement:

In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate.
The reckless criminal air attack to which the city of Omdurman was exposed, and whose target was the Sudanese radio station, constitutes a new link in the chain of plotting against the Sudan. It also clearly shows the enormity of the savage onslaught to which our country is exposed. This attack confirms beyond all doubt that the international sides which are acting against the Sudan's security and stability have become so desperate as to expose their ugly face before the whole world and to launch an air raid on our country in broad daylight without any regard for customs and traditions, and without abidance by any values and ethics. This blatant aggression shows complete disregard for the charters of the United Nations, the Arab League, the OAU and the ICO, and for all the principles of international law and all pacts which are recognized by the international community.

The savage invaders had thought that this criminal attack on our national sovereignty, security and air space would silence the voice of the revolution and shake our strong and solid domestic front. They forgot that the voice of the revolution exists in the conscience of our people, that the principles of the revolution are implanted deep into the Sudanese land, and that such a tyrannical attack would only further consolidate our ranks, unify our willpower, and make us hold firmly to our loyal and trustworthy leadership. The revolution has fulfilled what it pledged before God and continues to strongly express the hopes and aspirations of our people, and serves as the quiet guide of our triumphant march to dignity and progress.

What happened today calls on us all to arm ourselves with consciousness and alertness and to close our ranks. If the criminal and sinful aggressors think that their aggression will weaken the Sudanese people's determination, unity and solidarity with their leadership, they are mistaken. The Sudan and the Sudanese people stand completely behind their leadership. Tribulations and hardships will only make the Sudanese people more united and stronger. Not a single Sudanese will be willing to capitulate or weaken before aggression and savage invasion.

We are too strong to be humbled and too great to succumb to aggression. Planes and bombs will not make us kneel down. The people of Sudan and the Army of Sudan are capable of retaliating and confronting. They are also capable of protecting their homeland, territory and air space, and of preserving their independence, honor and dignity. The eyes of the cowards shall not sleep. The masses of the Sudanese people are fully aware of the plots and intrigues which are being hatched by Libya's dictator to cause disturbances and shake the stability of the Sudan and other neighboring countries. His repeated attempts to infiltrate and pounce upon our country are still vivid in our minds. As usual, these attempts will continue to be stopped before our people's might, unity and determination.

The SSU Central Leadership, while expressing its faith in the ability of our People's Armed Forces to repulse the invaders and protect the homeland's security and stability, urges the masses of the people to arm themselves with consciousness and unity, to show determination and a willpower to protect national stability and security, and to express with full determination and willpower their solidarity with their faithful leader, the triumphant leader President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri.

Glory to the Sudan, the people of Sudan, the unity of Sudan and the revolution of Sudan! God is great! God be praised!

Foreign Ministry Issues Statement
JN162138 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 2100 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 16 Mar (SUNA) — The Foreign Ministry issued a statement this evening on the incident of the plane which raided the city of Omdurman today. The following is the text of the statement:

At about 1130 on Friday, a Libyan military plane carried out a treacherous attack on civilian targets. During this raid, some houses in the Omdurman radio station area as well as the administrative affairs building of the national radio and television corporation were hit.

The Sudanese Foreign Ministry would like to draw the attention of the international community to the fact that it has been proven by conclusive evidence that the Libyan plane, which carried out the raid, took off from a military air base in Al-Kufrah and that it returned to the same base after the air raid, which resulted in several civilians being wounded. The Foreign Ministry, while announcing this to the entire world, notes what Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, head of the Libyan regime, announced on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the so-called Jamahiriyah. He said that he will liberate Sudan inch by inch and will then liberate Egypt. This confirms that Al-Qadhdhafi was harboring aggression and was intent on continuing his subversive plan against the states and peoples of the region in general, and against Sudan in particular.

The Foreign Ministry — while condemning this criminal act which conflicts with the most fundamental principles of international law and ethics which govern the international community — affirms that the Government of the Democratic Republic of Sudan reserves for itself the right to take all measures in international and regional forums to guarantee its security, stability and sovereignty over its air space and territories. Steadfast Sudan is capable of firmly confronting this blatant aggression and inflicting defeat on the sabotage plans of the Libyan regime,

which is a member of the suspect strategic alliance with well-known aggressive designs forplacing the region in an atmosphere of constant tension.

The Foreign Ministry is certain that the criminal act which was committed by the Libyan regime today will be condemned and denounced by all those who seek the maintenance of stability and security. Sudan will continue to be an oasis of peace in the Arab world and the African Continent, working for the well-being and prosperity of peoples and adhering to the ideal rules which it has set for its international relations; rules which are based on mutual respect, noninterference in other people's affairs, complete abidance by international and regional charters, and which have won the appreciation of the entire international community.

Council of Ministers' Statement

EA181851 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] The esteemed Council of Ministers held a special session at 1100 hours [local time] this morning [word indistinct]. The leader president, Ja'far Mohammad Numayri [word indistinct] the Libyan aggression against the country. The meeting was held at the secretariat of the Council of Ministers.

The president of the republic gave a detailed account of the brutal attack on Omdurman and the political and military measures which have since been taken. The esteemed council issued a statement condemning the brutal Libyan attack on the country. The council confirmed its denunciation of the conspiracy which was contrary to all international law. The council denounced the interference of the Libyan leader in our internal affairs. It reiterated its adherence to the objectives and principles of the victorious May revolution. [passage indistinct]

The council declared its intention to meet the requirements of our armed forces to defend the homeland. The council praised our peoples' stand and their immediate move to rally around their revolution and its triumphant leader. The council recorded its appreciation of and pride in the fraternal Egyptian people and its leader, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. It expressed its appreciation for the leaders and peoples of the friendly nations which condemned the aggression and declared their support for the Sudanese people, and above all for the United States, the UK, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and the heroic fighter, Mr Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO chief.

It also stressed the determination of the Sudanese Government and people to protect the homeland, its revolution and its wise leadership.

Cabinet Scores 'Libyan Aggression'

JN181857 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1751 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Mar (SUNA) — The Cabinet has denounced the treacherous Libyan aggression against our country. The cabinet said that this aggression violates all international laws, principles and norms to which all the civilized and peace-loving states are committed.

This came in a statement the Cabinet issued here this morning following the special session it held under President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri. During this session, the Cabinet discussed the details and results of the vile Libyan aggression against our country. The statement denounced the Libyan colonel's interference in Sudan's domestic affairs and his actions against our heroic people who have always called for unity, peace and solidarity. The statement also stressed Sudan's commitment to the principles and objectives of the 25 May revolution and its determination to proceed on the road of national dignity.

The statement stressed the Cabinet's support for our people's armed forces and announced its determination to provide all the requirements for our armed forces to perform their sacred duty in protecting the homeland. The statement also praised our people's cohesion, awareness and determination to defeat any attempt against the country's unity and sovereignty. The Cabinet expressed its pride in and appreciation of the stands of fraternal Egypt and its president, Husni Mubarak, who translated words into deeds and thus confirmed the strong relations between the two peoples of the Nile Valley.

At the end of its statement, the Cabinet expressed its appreciation of the peoples and leaders of the fraternal and friendly states which denounced and condemned the brutal Libyan aggression against our country.

The Cabinet held a special session here this morning under President Ja'far Numayri. During the session, President Numayri presented a detailed explanation of the aggression a Libyan plane carried out against Omdurman and the political, diplomatic and military measures that have been taken.

World Bodies Notified of Omdurman Raid

JN181109 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Mar (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak has sent urgent messages to the secretary generals of the United Nations, the Arab League, the OAU and the ICO, explaining the treacherous Libyan aggression on the city of Omdurman on Friday morning, 16 March 1984.

The messages point out the numerous occasions on which Sudan drew attention to the Libyan plotting agaisnt its security and stability. They also point out the numerous assertions by Sudan that the Libyan regime is constructing camps and training dissidents on Libyan territory and preparing them for aggression against Sudan. These assertions are proof of the intentions of the Libyan regime that are aimed at carrying out plots through Sudan's eastern and western borders. This has been stressed by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi in his statement on the occasion of the so-called seventh anniversary of the Jamahiriyah when he said that he will liberate Sudan inch by inch.

Sudan requested secretary generals to urgently circulate its complaint to all the member-states in the four organizations, so that they can assume their responsibility toward a member-state being subjected to aggression and ambition by another member-state. In its complaint, Sudan stressed that it reserves its legitimate right to defend its land and air, its security and peace, and

the safety of its citizens against any such aggression.

Numayri Confers With Other Mideast Leaders

Receives Egypt's Al-Baz, Message

JN181845 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1745 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Mar (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri received here today Dr Usamah al-Baz, first undersecretary of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry and director of the president's office for political affairs. Al-Baz conveyed a message to President Numayri from President Husni Mubarak expressing solidarity between the two peoples of the Nile valley.

This meeting is a completion of the talks between the two presidents — the talks which Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, began with President Numayri and military officials during his recent visit to Sudan, and during which the two sides discussed the means of confronting the situation resulting from the Libyan aggression, and of deterring this aggression.

Following the meeting, Dr al-Baz made a statement to SUNA, in which he said that the two sides agreed on specified steps and certain measures to confront the situation and safeguard the Nile Valley's security and safety against any foreign aggression.

Dr Usamah al-Baz arrived in Sudan yesterday.

Telephones King Fahd

JN171219 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Mar (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri made a telephone call Friday evening to Saudi monarch His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, while his majesty the king was in Dammam. The president informed the king of the flagrant Libyan aggression against Omdurman yesterday.

Receives UAE President's Call

JN171826 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1505 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Mar (SUNA) — UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan today contacted President Numayri by telephone to inquire about the details of the unjust air raid on the city of Omdurman yesterday morning, and to reassure himself of the situation following the air raid.

President Numayri informed His Highness Shaykh Zayid of the details of the Libyan air raid and its consequent damage to civilian targets and the casualties among the innocent civilians. His Highness Shaykh Zayid expressed his condemnation and denunciation of this sabotage operation.

Emergency UN Security Council Session Requested

JN191157 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 19 Mar (SUNA) — Sudan has requested an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council to discuss the Libyan aggression against Sudan. Sudan has also made a complaint to the Arab League.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Mustafa Madani yesterday evening met with Arab ambassadors and heads of Arab diplomatic missions in Khartoum and informed them of this. In a press statement after the meeting, Mustafa Madani said: We have requested the Arab ambassadors to support Sudan in the Arab League and in its complaint to the UN Security Council. We have requested that the Arab states assume all their responsibilities to defend and preserve the Arab League Charter concerning the continued Libyan aggressions against Sudan.

Mustafa Madani said that he also informed the Arab ambassadors about the series of Libyan aggressions agaisnt Sudanese territory. He pointed to the 1976 aggression that assumed the form of a military invasion when a large number of mercenaries were recruited by the Libyan authorities which resulted in thousands of innocent victims being killed in addition to the destruction of military and civilian installations. He said that the Libyans had committed aggression against peaceful Sudanese on the western border area and that the Libyans had come from Chadian territory.

Mustafa Madani said that he stressed to the ambassadors that Suydan shot down a Libyan plane piloted by a Libyan officer and exposed this to the whole world. The Libyan aggressions against Sudan continued by encircling its eastern border and continuing to train and finance mercenaries to carry out sabotage operations, especially in the southern regions. The Libyan authorities also kidnapped and killed several foreign experts working on economic projects, as well as killing a large number of citizens. He noted that these operations were carried out from Ethiopian territory.

Mustafa Madani added: Despite all this, Sudan throughout its long history has never initiated any attack against Libya or against any other Africa country. It has, until this movement, always abided by the principles of good neighborliness. The minister said: I have informed the ambassadors that Sudan has continued to work for improving its relations with some African countries. He added: When we began our talks with Ethiopia, the Libyan president declared that he will continue supporting the outlaws until he can overthrow the regime in Sudan.

The minister said that this declaration was in violation of the basic principles of international law and norms, and is considered blatant interference by Libya in the internal affairs of Sudan. Last Friday's incident is confirmation of the threats that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi made against Sudan and against the safety of its territory and people. The minister said: I have informed the Arab ambassadors that many countries have denounced this barbarous attack and that denunciations and condemnations are still coming in from a number of other countries. This is conclusive proof that the Libyan regime has utter disregard for all international values and morals.

Mustafa Madani stressed to the Arab ambassadors that Sudan will reserve for itself the right to defend the security of its people and the safety of its territory by all means necessary.

Numayri, Egypt's Defense Minister Confer on Raid

NC162013 Cairo MENA in English 1935 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, March 16 (MENA) — President Ja'far Numayri received tonight a message from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak following the air raid on Omdurman this morning.

The message was conveyed by Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, Egyptian defence minister, who had arrived here from Cairo immediately before seeing President Numayri.

After the meeting, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah described the air raid as a "serious aggression." He cited the Egyptian-Sudanese joint defence agreement and said that certain measures are being taken to face up to these events "firmly and decisively." "These measures," he added, "will make everybody know his limits and realize his true size." He said there will be a meeting of the Sudanese and Egyptian operations staff to determine whatever is necessary to confront these things and prevent their repetition at present and in the future.

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah had arrived at Khartoum airport at 5 o'clock this afternoon. He was received at the airport by Dr Baha' ad-Din Muhammad, minister of presidential affairs; Lt Gen 'Abd ar-Rahman Siwar-Dahab, deputy commander-in chief; Air Marshal Muhammad Mirghani, Air Force commander; and Ahmad 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif, the Egyptian ambassador.

People's Assembly Condemns Libyan Raid, Plots

JN181946 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1735 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Mar (SUNA) — In an emergency session held today, the Sudanese People's Assembly condemned the sinful Libyan air strike against Omdurman and denounced it as a link in the series of plots against Sudan and the Sudanese revolution. The assembly reiterated its adherance to its revolution and to the leadership of President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, the symbol of national unity, the pride of the people and the homeland, and the bulwark facing the hostile attempts.

The assembly also reiterated its absolute trust in the people's armed forces and in their ability to defend the homeland. The assembly called for rendering the necessary support for these armed forces to continue their pioneering national role. It also called for the immediate implementation of a plan to establish people's civil defense institutions. The council called on all popular sectors to be alert and confront any attempts at sedition and sabotage that would threaten the national existence.

The following is the text of the statement:

To those against whom war is made, permission is given to fight, because they are wronged; and God is most powerful for their aid. [Koranic verse]

The People's Assembly, in its emergency session, having discussed the details of the sinful air raid against Omdurman on the morning of Friday, 16 March 1984, which was aimed against Sudan's unity, independence, security and sovereignty; which was an attempt to harm Sudan's dignity and pride; and which was a flagrant violation of international law, charters and conventions, issues the following resolutis:

1. The People's Assembly condemns and denounces the sinful Libyan air strike, which is a link in the series of continuous plots against Sudan and its revolution, and an act that is connected with an international as well as regional strategy that emanated from the well known Aden conference and its secret documents, which are aimed at striking at Sudan because it is an obstacle to implementing their plans of clamping a red communist belt around Africa.

2. The People's Assembly reiterates and reaffirms its adherence to its leader, President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, the symbol of national unity, the pride of the people and the homeland, and the bulwark facing the hostile attempts.

3. The People's Assembly calls for further cohesion in the internal front, entrenching the people's national unity, increasing their support for their wise leadership and preventing hostile attempts at home and abroad.

4. The People's Assembly reaffirms its absolute confidence in the Sudanese People's Armed Forces and all the regular forces, and in their ability to defend the homeland. The assembly calls for rendering the necessary means of support for these forces in order to continue their national role in protecting the nation's security and the national achievements. The assembly hails the solidarity between the various sectors of the people and their armed forces, and calls for the immediate implementation of a plan to establish popular civil defense institutions.

5. The People's Assembly calls on the various popular sectors, organizations and institutions to be alert and to confront the desperate attempts of sedition and sabotage. It calls on organizations and trade unions to carry out their duties toward the major national issues in order to confront the greatest challenge; namely, the threat to the national existence, unity and independence.

6. It praises Egypt's firm support for Sudan and its announcement that it will abide by the joint defense agreement, which stresses the immortal and fraternal ties between the two countries.

7. It expresses its thanks to friendly and fraternal countries and the PLO for their concern over what happened in Sudan and their denunciation of the ugly crime that the forces hostile to the Arab nation and the African Continent have carried out.

8. It calls for intensifying contacts with international and regional institutions and the various parliaments to explain to them the dimensions of the sinful aggression against the country

so that they can denounce the aggression and the continued conspiracy to which Sudan is being exposed.

Against them make ready your strength to the utmost of your power, including steeds of war, to strike terror into the hearts of the enemies, of God and your enemies [Koranic verse].

Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry and director of the president's office for political affairs, and Ahmad 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif, Egyptian ambassador in Khartoum, attended part of the assembly's session. In his speech at the assembly, People's Assembly Speaker 'Izz ad-Din as-Sayyid pointed out that the foolish air raid planned by Libya's mad colonel demonstrates his indifference to all international norms and charters. He said that the premeditated air raid was not aimed only at our air space or territory but also at our honor, sovereignty over our territory and air space, dignity, independence, principles, heritage, present and future.

'Izz ad-Din also praised the brave role that our People's Armed Forces continue to assume, asserting the presence of the people in the battlefield. He expressed his confidence in their ability to confront all kinds of challenge and protect the country's independence.

'Izz ad-Din also praised Egypt's sincere support for Sudan, and thanked the Egyptian People's Assembly and the Consultative Council for discussing the incident and expressing real integration between the legislative institutions in the two countries. He also greeted the fraternal and friendly countries' heads of state and kings, who expressed their denunciation of the ugly crime. He also greeted struggler Yasir 'Arafat, who came — despite his preoccupations — to acquaint himself with the incident.

The People's Assembly speaker appealed to the entire international community to put an end to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's childlish plots, which exceed all limits of logic and spread terrorism and confusion in many countries in the world. During the session, a detailed discussion was held on the air raid and a statement was issued.

AFP Cites Report on 'Soviet-Made' Bomb

NC191504 Paris AFP in English 1454 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Khartoum, March 19 (AFP) — The Tupolev Tu-22 bomber which bombed the Sudanese town of Omdurman on Friday, killing five people, was flying low to avoid being detected by radar, *ARMED FORCES WEEKLY* said today. The paper quoted "an authoritative source" as saying the Soviet-built bomber entered Sudanese airspace from the west, flying low to escape detection, and across areas where surveillance was inadequate. The source admitted that Sudan could not afford an air defence network with surveillance and alert systems covering all its airspace.

ARMED FORCES WEEKLY reported that Libya was the only country in the region which owned this type of long-range bomber. The paper said one of the five bombs dropped in the raid — which fell on the house of former prime minister and opposition leader Sadiq al-Mahdi but did not explode — was a Soviet-made bomb weighing 500 pounds and carrying 400 pounds of explosives. The report said markings on the bomb, which was defused, showed it was made in the Soviet Union in 1978. Sudan had not received any Russian-made weapons since 1972. The paper quoted experts as saying the bomb did not explode because its safety device was not removed.

ETHIOPIA

Government 'Knew Nothing' About Omdurman Bombing

EA171952 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1935 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] News reaching us from Khartoum indicates that the town of Omdurman, situated near the Sudanese capital, Khartoum, was bombed by an unidentified bomber aircraft yesterday. The news also disclosed that in the raid three people were killed and the radio station at Omdurman, an administrative office, and stationary vehicles were damaged. It was learned that the aircraft was seen flying off in the direction from which it came.

A Ministry of Information and National Guidance spokesman has said that it was a known habit of the Sudan Government to repeatedly accuse Revolutionary Ethiopia and engage on campaigns of deceit, assuming this would help it to eradicate its internal problems. He added that revolutionary Ethiopia knew nothing whatsoever about the alleged bombing of Omdurman.

Somali, Libyan Fronts Condemn Tension in Horn

EA171550 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Front in Somali 1200 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] The Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF] and the National Front for the Salvation of Libya [NFSL] today issued a strongly worded joint communique vehemently condemning black colonialist Abyssinia and the terror regime of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, which continue to stir up tension and friction throughout the world and particularly in the Horn of Africa.

Al-Qadhdhafi and Mengistu, the communique said, continue stirring up friction, tension and instability in the Horn of Africa and the world at large to prepare the ground for the USSR to grab total control over the region, which is strategically important to world powers and of special interest to the Arab and Muslim world.

The communique was issued after intensive consultations between the two fronts at the WSLF Headquarters in Mogadishu, Somalia.

The two fronts called on the Muslim world and the peace-loving states and organizations of the world to support the the WSFL in throwing off the shackles of black colonialist Abyssinia and in wresting its birthright of freedom.

The WSLF and the NFSL also jointly condemned Abyssinia's repeated acts of unprovoked aggression on Somalia and called on the Abyssinians immediately and unconditionally to withdraw their troops from Somali territory.

The two fronts appealed to the international community and particularly to the Arab states to fully support the justified jihad being waged by the Libyan people against Al-Qadhdhafi's usurper terror regime and also to give the struggling people of Eritrea all possible assistance. [passage indistinct]

KENYA

Statement Issued on Security Along Ugandan Border

EA161202 Nairobi KNA in English 0915 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Nairobi March 16 — The following statement by Hon Justus K. Ole Tipis, E.B.S. [expansion unknown] MP, on security along our border with Uganda:

1. Security along our borders is essential for promotion of cooperation with our neighbours and for orderly development of our country, and in particular the border areas.

2. Despite repeated warnings by the government, illegal activities such as cattle rustling, smuggling, possession of illegal fire-arms, wanton killing of innocent people and looting of property have been on the increase.

3. These illegal activities have created an atmosphere of general insecurity threatening to cause complete breakdown of law and order along that border.

4. Government has a sacred duty to protect lives and property of the wananchi. Continued tribal clashes in the area have caused loss of lives and property.

5. Consequently government decided to step in and mounted an operation in cooperation with Uganda Government to restore law and order.

6. The operation which has lasted about 3 weeks has already yielded good results including recovery of more than 170 assorted firearms, several rounds of ammunition and more than 8,000 head of cattle.

7. There are still pockets of lawlessness and the operation will have to continue in order to ensure complete restoration of law and order. Wananchi are therefore urged to cooperate with government so as to facilitate the achievements of the objectives of the exercise.

8. The Kenya Government would like to thank the Uganda Government for the effective part they have played in ensuring peace and security along our common border.

SOMALIA

'Bitter Fighting' Continues In Central Region

EA162342 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Bitter fighting continues to rage between the forces of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of theSomali opposition forces, and the loyalist troops of the Mogadishu regime.

The latest report from the ongoing fighting in central Somalia says that units of the 15th (Gorod) Division of the DFSS forces

killed 27 soldiers and wounded 40 others from the loyalist troops of General Siad Barre.

The report adds that the DFSS forces destroyed three APC vehicles, one troop carrier, and a jeep-mounted 106-mm field gun belonging to the forces of the terrorist regime in Mogadishu.

The attack launched by the DFSS fighters on the military base of the forces loyal to Gen Siad Barre on the main road connecting Balamballe, El Dere, and Matabaan also destroyed the ammunition depot and other stores at the base.

The report says that three DFSS fighters were wounded. The reports concludes by saying that the fighting is still going on.

TANZANIA

SWAPO's Nujoma, Toivo Meet With President Nyerere

Report on Arrival

EA171345 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1000 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Dar es Salaam: The South-West Africa Peoples Organization president, Ndugu Sam Nujoma, arrived in Dar es Salaam this morning for a 1-day visit to Tanzania.

Principal secretary to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ndugu Gilmam Rutihinda, told Radio Tanzania that the SWAPO leader will hold discussions with President Nyerere. The discussions are expected to center on the Namibian independence issue.

Ndugu Nujoma is accompanied by the recently freed SWAPO national leader Ndugu Toivo ja Toivo.

At the Dar es Salaam International Airport they were received by SWAPO officials based in Dar es Salaam and Foreign Ministry officials. Ndugu Toivo served 16 of a 20-year sentence in South Africa's notorious Robben Island.

'Lengthy Discussions' With Nyerere

EA171908 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Dar es Salaam — The chairman of the frontline states, Mwalimu Nyerere, today held lengthy discussions with Ndugu Sam Nujoma, president of the SWAPO of Namibia, on the liberation struggle in southern Africa. The talks, which took place at mwalimu's Msasani residence in Dar es Salaam, were also attended by a founder of SWAPO, Ndugu Herman Toivo ja Toivo.

Ndugu Sam Nujoma told President Nyerere that SWAPO military [as heard] will continue fighting inside Namibia until the UN Resolution 435 is fully implemented.

Ndugu Nujoma and Ndugu Toivo ja Toivo arrived in Dar es Salaam early this morning from Lusaka where they had similar consultations with President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia.

The talks were also attended by Ndugu Salim Ahmed Salim, foreign affairs minister; Ndugu Tambwe, Tanzania's high commissioner to Zambia; Ndugu Rutihinda, principal secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and other government officials.

Nujoma Denounces Conference Proposal

EA172152 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Dar es Salaam — The leader of the Namibian liberation movement, SWAPO, Ndugu Sam Nujoma, has said SWAPO's liberation thrust and international pressure are forcing the South African racist regime to relinquish its domination over Namibia.

Addressing a news conference at the Dar es Salaam International Airport today, Ndugu Nujoma said SWAPO freedom fighters in Namibia have been scoring great achievements on the battle front, reducing the morale of South African troops.

He said the Boers were also feeling the pinch of international community pressure exerted on them aimed at isolating the racists. He said it was on this basis that the racist regime employed another treacherous act of proposing a conference on Namibia to be attended by SWAPO, puppet groups in Namibia, the Angolan Government, and the unit's banditry group. Ndugu Nujoma reiterated SWAPO's readiness to meet the South Africans to discuss a cease-fire in Namibia. Such a cease-fire, he said, would mark the beginning of a decolonization process in Namibia, but strictly under the UN plan for Namibian independence.

Ndugu Nujoma lashed out at U.S. attempts to create confusion in the region as another tactic to delay Namibian independence.

Ndugu Nujoma was accompanied by a SWAPO founding member who has just been released from the Robben Island prison, Ndugu Toivo ja Toivo. They were in Tanzania to brief the chairman of the frontline states, Mwalimu Nyerere, on the latest developments in southern Africa, especially Namibia.

They left for Zambia this afternoon.

CAMEROON

Moroccan Minister Meets Biya, Assesses W. Sahara

AB171410 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Abdelouahed Radi, the Moroccan minister in charge of cooperation, was received in audience this morning by the head of state, His Excellency Paul Biya. After the audience at the Unity Palace, the Moroccan envoy explained to Christopher Ndassi the purpose of his visit to Cameroon.

[Begin recording] [Radi] There is a need for two brotherly and friendly countries to have contacts periodically in order to exchange their views and harmonize their actions with the view to finding the best solutions to problems facing Africa.

[Ndassi] Recently Mauritania recognized the SDAR. Will this move have any effect on the relations between Morocco and Mauritania at a time when Rabat has accused Nouakchott of violating the principle of neutrality and good neighborliness?

[Radi] Well, you see, any recognition taking place after the Nairobi summit, which worked out a framework for the settlement of the Western Saharan conflict, is not serious, because the country recognizing the SDAR cannot both uphold the principle of a self-determination referendum and anticipate the outcome of the referendum. So for us, such recognitions are not serious.

[Ndassi] A total of 28 African states have already recognized the SDAR. Will Morocco persist in its refusal to hold direct negotiations with the Polisario Front?

[Radi] You know, the solution agreed upon by everyone both in Africa and the world over is the holding of a referendum. Morocco is attached to this solution. For us a referendum alone can determine which claimant represents the people of the Western Sahara. [end recording]

CHAD

Change of Tactics by Goukouni Forces Portrayed

PM161609 Paris LE MONDE in French 16 Mar 84 pp 1, 4

[Jacques Isnard report: "Threats of Clashes in Southern Chad"]

[Text] The French intelligence services have gained the certainty that enemy commandos, who have travelled from the north on board Toyota vehicles, have succeeded in infiltrating the military defense system — President Hissein Habre's Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT) and the French Manta expeditionary force — deployed along the 16th parallel on the line joining Toro Doum, Koro Toro and Oum Chalouba in Chad. They suspect a change of tactic in the field, that is, the temporary abandonment of head-on attack or of the breaching of this "Red Line" by the combined forces — the Libyan regular army, the Islamic Legion, and Goukouni Oueddei's supporters — to give priority now to individual destabilization actions in the south of the country, such as the blowing up of the DC-8 at N'Djamena airport.

According to this analysis, the present deployment of the Manta force (in often uncomfortable positions from which reconnaissance patrols leave on board land vehicles or helicopters) along an imaginary and penetrable border is no longer suited to this change of tactic in the field. On the contrary, the deployment should be made more mobile, because though the strength of the Manta force — about 3,000 men — is enough to cope with a direct attack, it is insufficient specifically to organize surveillance which, if not watertight, is at least as flexible and maneuverable as possible.

The same source indicates that the strongholds at Faya-Largeau and Fada held in the north of the country by troops hostile to President Habre have been considerably reinforced, particularly by the installation of launch ramps for French-built Crotale surface-to-air missiles and the presence — detected by the interception of enemy transmissions — of a major Libyan regular army contingent; so much so that it could now seem impossible for the government forces, based on lightly armed infantry, to regain these strongholds without air cover which, in this instance, could come only from France.

The Libyan military is supporting a policy that the French intelligence services readily describe as annexationist, inasmuch as, for instance, the French language is forbidden to be taught in schools in northern Chad, where Islam has been declared the official religion. The Libyans give French analysts the impression of having established themselves in northern Chad with the argument that time, which is on their side, will show that France has become mired there and is incapable of helping the FANT to win back this area, which has virtually been annexed, as the Aouzou Strip was before it.

Proceeding from this position of strength and from a military situation frozen both sides of the 16th parallel, the change of tactic in the field seems logical, especially because, moreover, diplomatic contacts have produced no compromise between the warring factions fighting for Chad. The destabilization operations — attacks in the capital on French targets, the mining of retreat routes behind the "Red Line," the taking of possible hostages, and so forth — are designed to show that President Habre's local administration in the south of the country is not succeeding in restoring the civil peace expected by the population.

Already ravaged by war for almost 17 years now, Chad is now experiencing major economic difficulties — owing to the lack of immediately available funds — and evident administrative problems which the dispatch of officials loyal to Mr Habre to the south of the country has not succeeded in hiding. On the contrary, the majority of these officials are no longer being paid and, in the FANT, for instance, the troops have not been paid since November. According to French analysts, Libya, which does not lack money, could easily profit from such a situation by directly or indirectly financing the gangs which, when the seasons permits, engage in piracy along the roads of southern Chad.

ZAIRE

Joint Communique on Portuguese President's Visit

EA161344 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French
0500 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Excerpts] The Portuguese presidential couple, Mr and Mrs Eanes left Kinshasa yesterday for Congo-Brazzaville by crossing the River Zaire. Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko saw the departure. A joint communique signed by the two heads of state at the Marble Palace stressed the satisfaction of the two sides with their excellent relations.

Here is the communique, read by [name indistinct], secretary of state for [word indistinct]: Joint communique on the official visit to Zaire by his excellency General Antonio Ramalho Eanes, president of the Portuguese Republic, 13-15 March 1984.

On the invitation of the MPR [Popular Movement of the Revolution], the president and founder, president of the Republic of Zaire, Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu Wa Za Banga, President of the Portuguese Republic his excellency General Antonio Ramalho Eanes paid an official visit to Zaire 13-15 March 1984. The Portuguese president was accompanied by Mrs Eanes and a high-powered delegation including Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Jaime Gama, Deputy Secretary of State for Education Mrs Maria (Ellomarca Valle) dos Santos, State Adviser (da Costa), and Portuguese Ambassador to Zaire (Alberto Ogero).

During his talks with the visitor, the president of the Republic of Zaire was accompanied by Citizen Umba Di Lutete, state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation and Central Committee member; Citizen Seti Yale, special adviser of the MPR president and founder and president of the republic; Citizen Mlumbi Lukoji, state commissioner for planning; Citizen Pay Pay Wa Kasige, state commissioner for the national economy, industry and external trade.

The Portuguese presidential couple were given a warm and enthusiastic welcome from the Zairean people united within the MPR and visited areas of economic and social interest. The two presidents held in-depth discussions on bilateral questions and reviewed current international issues of common interest.

On bilateral questions, the two presidents expressed their happiness with the excellence of relations between Portugal and Zaire, relations which are characterized by the general agreement on cooperation [word indistinct], agreements relating to air traffic, economic and technical cooperation, trade and culture. In this respect, President Mobutu Sese Seko briefed President Eanes on Zaire's economic progress, particularly economic measures adopted in September 1983 with the objective of recovery of the Zairean economy.

President Eanes briefed President Mobutu Sese Seko on the importance Portugal attaches to the development of bilateral cooperation in all fields, particularly in those of food and agricultural production, technology and research in tropical farming.

The two heads of state expressed pleasure with the results of negotiations on a maritime agreement which will contribute to consolidation of relations between the two countries. Reviewing the possibilities of investment, the two presidents, considering [word indistinct], decided on the possibility of establishing an agreement for the protection and reciprocal guarantee of investments in the framework of laws in each country. The two presidents expressed their satisfaction with the positive response by the Portuguese side to the call of the Zairean president for assistance in the development of Zaire in all fields and particularly in the agricultural sector.

On international questions, the two heads of state acknowledged the urgent need to [word indistinct] peace and justice-loving countries in reaffirming fundamental principles of international rights and safeguarding peace as well as a search for ways and means for the peaceful settlement of conflicts.

On the Middle East, the two presidents considered that the conditions for a just and lasting peace [words indistinct].A just and total solution must respect internationally recognized borders and acknowledge the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to their own fatherland, and this, in conformity with the relevant UN resolutions.

On southern Africa, the two presidents reiterated their firm condemnation of the apartheid policy pursued by South Africa in defiance of elementary norms of international law. On Namibia, they expressed their deep concern on the nonapplication of resolution No 435 of the UN Security Council and the obstacles (?impeding) the independence of this territory. They reaffirmed their support for the Namibian people and for SWAPO, its legitimate representative, struggling for their national independence. The two presidents considered the efforts for dialogue and negotiations currently being deployed for detente in southern Africa to be encouraging. They again (?wished) to see those negotiations resulting in safeguards and respect for the fundamental interests of all people in the region.

On the situation in Chad, and taking into account the legitimacy of its government, the two presidents reaffirmed the position according to which a peaceful solution to the conflict, based on reconciliation, national independence and the territorial integrity, must be found within the framework of the UN and the OAU.

The two heads of state expressed pleasure with the spirit of perfect understanding which characterized their talks. President Ramalho Eanes, on his own behalf and on behalf of Mrs Eanes and the Portuguese delegation, epxressed gratitude for the warm welcome given by President Mobutu Sese Seko and Mobutu Bobi Ladawa, the authorities and the people of Zaire.

Issued in Kinshasa, 15 March 1984, for the Portuguese Republic, Antonio Ramalho Eanes, general; for the Republic oc Zaire, MPR president and founder, president of the republic, Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu Wa Za Banga, marshal.

CAPE VERDE

Dos Santos, En Route to Cuba, Received by Pereia

AB180715 Paris AFP in French 1156 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Praia, 17 Mar [AFP] — Sometime between Friday night and Saturday morning, Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, who made a stopover on Sal Island on his way to Cuba, held talks with his Cape Verdean counterpart, Aristides Pereira, it was announced in Praia on Saturday morning. An informed source in the Cape Verdean capital announced that the question of a possible withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola was examined, though no official detail was given on this point. President Pereira has acted for a year as an intermediary in the talks that resulted in the establishment of contacts between Angola and the United States on the one hand, and between Angola and South Africa on the other.

Kampuchean Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

AB181150 Paris AFP in French 1424 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Praia, 17 Mar [AFP] — Kampuchean Foreign Minister Hen Sun arrived in Praia on Saturday to start a 2-day official visit, an official source announced. He was received on arrival by Osvaldo Lopes da Silva, the Cape Verdean minister of economy and finance.

Portuguese-Speaking Countries To Hold Summit 'Soon'

AB190735 Paris AFP in English 0715 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Praia, Cape Verde, March 19 [AFP] — Africa's five Portuguese-speaking countries will hold a summit meeting soon to declare formally their support for the decision of two of them — Angola and Mozambique — to sign agreements with white-ruled South Africa. The announcement came at the end of talks here Sunday between visiting Guinea-Bissau President Joao Bernardo Vieira and Cape Verde's president, Aristides Pereira. No date or place was given. The two leaders said in a joint communique that they backed Mozambique's peace pact with South Africa, signed last Friday. The fifth Portuguese-speaking African state — all of them former Portuguese colonies — is Sao Tome and Principe, two islands in the Gulf of Guinea.

GUINEA

Toure Departs for Visit to Algiers 17 March

AB181005 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0915 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] President Sekou Toure, secretary general of the Guinean Democratic Party and supreme leader of the revolution, left Conakry for Algiers late yesterday morning at the head of an official delegation. The head of state was greeted at the airport by the members of the National Political Bureau, the Central Committee, the government, members of the national committees of the youth and women's associations, as well as members of the diplomatic corps in Conakry.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Ousted Premier Relieved of Party Functions

LD170509 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 2330 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Excerpts] The ousted prime minister of Guinea Bissau, Victor Saude Maria, who has sought refuge at the Portuguese Embassy, was today officially relieved of all his party functions, 27 years after joining the PAIGC.

At an extraordinary session of the Council of Ministers, President Nino Vieira accused him of seeking to overthrow the regime. Speaking of "ignoble treason," the Council of Ministers condemned his alleged criminal activities and unbounded political ambition.

The note issued in Lisbon today by the Ministry of Defense says that the Portuguese Government was informed yesterday that Victor Saude Maria had requested asylum in the Portuguese Embassy claiming that he feared for his life for political reasons. The note further states that Acting Prime Minister Mota Pinto has kept Prime Minister Mario Soares, currently on a visit to the United States, informed of developments.

Foreign Minister on Asylum Request

For Lisbon coverage of Foreign Minister Fidelis Cabral de Almada's visit to Portugal concerning dismissed Prime Minister Victor Saude Maria's recent request for political asylum at the Portuguese Embassy in Bissau, including an interview in which he said Saude Maria would never be allowed to leave the Portuguese Embassy, see the Portugal section of the 19 March Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

MALI

Soviet, Canadian Ambassadors Present Credentials

AB161825 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Two ambassadors presented their credentials this morning to the head of state, General Moussa Traore. They are His Excellency Yevgeniy Nersesov of the USSR and His Excellency John Peter Bell of the Republic of Canada.

NIGER

Kountche Receives Iranian Official, Delegation

Iranian Comments

AB162225 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Brigadier General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state, this afternoon received the Iranian vice minister of foreign affairs, Kazempur Ardabili. After the meeting, the Iranian diplomat said that he

delivered a message from the Iranian president to the head of state.

[Begin Ardabili recording in Persian followed by French translation] At our meeting with the president of the republic, we discussed political, economic, and [word indistinct] issues. We also delivered a message from the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran to his excellency President Kountche, and we invited him on behalf of our president of the republic to pay an official visit to Iran. [end recording]

Speaking of the Iran-Iraq war, the Iranian vice minister of foreign affairs gave us a few explanations about Baghdad's recent use of chemical weapons in the war.

[Begin Ardabili recording] As you know, the world community joined Tehran in condemning the use of chemical weapons as well as [words indistinct] the victory of the Islamic Republic of Iran. We are sure that the world will condemn this use of chemical weapons. There are people who have been wounded by these chemical weapons in certain countries in the world,and no one can deny this. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

Uranium Sales Considered

AB171358 Paris AFP in English 0919 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Niamey, March 17 [AFP] — Niger's head of state, General Seyni Kountche, has met Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Kazempur Ardabili here, following negotiations on the sale of uranium to Iran by the west African country.

President Kountche was officially invited to go to Iran by his Iranian visitor, official sources said.

Although the minister gave no details of his talks with the president last night, observers noted that the meeting followed nine months of contacts between the two countries, especially since Iran opened a diplomatic mission here last December.

Early this month, the two sides were still discussing details of a possible contract to supply Iran with uranium, which provided 75 percent of Niger's export income last year.

Observers see the talks as evidence of Niger's determination to gain the maximum benefit from its mineral wealth, putting aside political or ideological issues.

In 1981, Niger delivered 100 tonnes of uranium to Iraq, which was already at war with Iran. In the same year, more than 1,000 tonnes went to Libya.

Expanded Cooperation

LD181113 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] An Iranian political and economic delegation which is touring a number of African countries led by Mr Kazempur Ardabili, the Foreign Ministry international and economic under secretary, yesterday met Niger's president in Niamey.

According to an IRNA report, during that meeting Mr Kazempur Ardabili presented the Niger president with a written message from Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, our country's president. He further briefed the Niger president on the latest developments in Iraq's imposed war against Iran and Saddam's criminal actions in using chemical weapons against the combatants of Islam.

The president of Niger also said the use of chemical weapons by any country is reprehensible. Expressing his satisfaction over the existing ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran, the president communicated his governemnt's willingness to further ties with Iran in the political and economic fields and stressed the two countries' common interest in expanded international cooperation.

The report further says that during this meeting the two sides stressed the necessity of high-level meetings between the two countries.

The Iranian delegation also met and held talks with the Niger foreign minister. During this meeting, in which the Iranian Foreign Ministry Arab-African director general as well as the Iranian charge to Niger were also present, the two sides stressed their mutual desire to expand their bilateral economic and political relations. The meeting also discussed the prospect of purchasing uranium from Niger, as well as Iran's proposed dispatch of oil, mining, road construction and communication experts to Niger.

Kountche Receives Upper Voltan Defense Minister

AB190930 Niamey Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Last night President Seyni Kountche granted an audience to Upper Voltan Defense Minister Major Lingani who was bearer of a message from President Sankara to General Seyni Kountche. After the audience, Maj Lingani told the press what his talks with President Kountche centered upon.

[Begin recording] [Lingani] I am bearing a friendly message from President Sankara to President Seyni Kountche. You know that President Seyni Kountche is the current chairman of the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel. In this connection, a meeting is scheduled in Ouagadougou. [Words indistinct]

[Question by unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, just recently a delegation from your country and one from Mali held a meeting on the border dispute between the two countries. Could you tell us Upper Volta's position on the issue?

[Lingani] [Words indistinct] each of us is trying to find a solution to ensure that the people living on the border will live in (?peaceful coexistence). [end recording]

NIGERIA

Gambari Attends Strategic Issues Conference

Names Foreign Policy Goals

AB171230 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Nigeria will continue to pursue a dynamic and realistic foreign policy taking into consideration the present economic circumstances. The external affairs minister, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, stated that in his address to the International Conference on Strategic Issues currently going on in Washington, United States. Dr Gambari stated that in the meantime, emphasis will be laid on five specific areas. These include an effective defense policy, decolonization, economic community of West African states, ECOWAS, and North-South dialogue.

The minister told delegates that a weak Nigeria could not pursue a vigorous foreign policy adding that such was the country's state during the ousted civilian administration. He told the conference that the present regime has started taking corrective measures toward revamping the national economy, checking corruption, instilling national discipline as well as establishing an indigenous political system which will address and fulfill the basic needs of Nigerians. Nigeria is being represented at the Washington conference by the external affairs minister and the minister of defense, Major General Domkat Bali.

Meets With Shultz

AB171340 Lagos NAN in English 1248 GMT 17 Mar 84

[By Lawrence Ukwu]

[Text] New York, March 17 [NAN]— A special message from the head of state, Maj Gen Muhammadu Buhari, was delivered to the U.S. secretary of state, Mr George Shultz, by the minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, for onward transmission to President Ronald Reagan on Thursday in Washington.

The New York correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA [NAN] said that the details of the message, which was delivered during talks between the two officials, were not made known.

Sources close to the minister of external affairs revealed, however, that the message was a reply to an earlier one sent to Maj Gen Buhari by President Reagan.

Dr Gambari held discussions with Mr Shultz on a number of issues including Namibian independence and the recent U.S.-inspired disengagement talks between South Africa and Angola. The minister of external affairs reiterated Nigeria's total commitment to an unconditional independence for Namibia which, he said, was now overdue.

Earlier, the minister of external affairs, accompanied by Nigeria's permanent representative at the UN, retired Maj Gen Joseph Garba, called on the UN secretary-general, Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, in New York. Their discussion centered on Chad, Namibia and Western Sahara.

Idiagbon: Rumors of Invasion Not Taken Lightly

AB190855 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] Rumors of mercenary invasion of the country are not being taken lightly by the government. The chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, said that movements of suspects were being closely monitored. Brig Idiagbon was speaking yesterday on "Matters of the Moment," a Radio Nigeria public affairs program.

The chief of staff warned that any attempt to cause disorder would be firmly resisted. He called on all Nigerians to report strange elements to law-enforcement agencies. Asked to comment on the periodical Maitatsine religious uprising, Brig Idiagbon noted that the matter was being passed over to a judicial inquiry and the government action would be determined by the report of the panel. And on the issue of border clashes with our neighboring countries, Brig Idiagbon explained that Nigeria's policy on mutual respect and peaceful coexistence with her neighbors must not be interpreted as weakness in her defense capabilities. Rather, he assured that Nigeria now possessed the means to defend the borders from any foreign aggression.

On political detainees, the chief of staff dispelled rumors of favoritism to some of them and pointed out that the detainees had not been convicted and could therefore not be treated as convicts. Brig Idiagbon said that the Federal Military Government would take measures to safeguard the interest and protect the identity of those who gave genuine information about corrupt elements in the society. However, he warned that the government would deal ruthlessly with any person who gave false information in an attempt to malign the integrity of honest Nigerians.

On oil the chief of staff said that any decision to vary the country's oil production quota must be by a joint decision of members of the OPEC. He explained that although an increase in our oil production could improve the country's economic position, Nigeria would continue to abide by whatever quota OPEC allocated to her.

Commenting on the influx of high-level foreign visitors to Nigeria, Brig Idiagbon said that the visits were primarily to ascertain areas of positive changes in the policies of the new Federal Government. He stated that such visits by African leaders were a recognition that Africa, being the centerpiece of Nigeria's foreign policy, was bound to attract more attention by the present military administration.

The chief of staff urged Nigerians to patronize local foodstuffs in preference to imported ones. Brig Idiagbon said that Nigerians ought to engage more seriously in cultivating local crops like yams, cassava, and millet, particularly now that the rains were setting in. He stressed that Nigerians ought to display a sense of patriotism in the choice of food by ensuring that local foodstuffs were given a pride of place. The chief of staff said that it was the

government's intention to stop the importation of rice as soon as local production of alternatives caught up with the local consumption level. The government, Brig Idiagbon noted, was presently directing its attention toward achieving self-sufficiency in all essential commodities within the shortest possible time.

On the unemployment situation, the chief of staff said that the government was taking steps to revitalize the economy so as to create more job opportunities in the public and private sectors. He pointed out that the Federal Military Government had embarked on a 10-point program of action designed to eliminate the problems inherited from the previous administration. For example, the government was ensuring that import licences were more properly utilized than when they were given as mere party patronage.

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Panic Over Rumors of Maitatsine Attack in Maiduguri
AB161348 Lagos NAN in English 1337 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Maiduguri, Mar 16 [NAN] — There was a stampede in Maiduguri today as people ran helter skelter following rumours that the Maitatsine disciples had attacked some parts of the state capital.

A correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA [NAN] who went around the capital reports that both the social and economical life of the town was paralized as traders closed their shops and fled in confusion. Transporters in the capital also withdrew their services and hundreds of passengers waited in vain for taxis and buses.

In some primary schools, parents were seeing withdrawing their children while workers in various government offices fled for their homes earlier than the normal closing time.

The NAN correspondent further reports that some families had already fled their homes for either military or police barracks while the entire Maiduguri metropolis appeared deserted.

The Borno commissioner of police, Alhaji Adamu Abubakar, later told NAN that the situation was brought about by rumourmongers and confirmed that the situation was under full control. He appealed to the public to go about their normal duties, adding that police patrol teams would be going around the township to ensure their safety.

SENEGAL

Diouf Discusses 15 March Visit to Cape Verde
AB161320 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] The head of state returned to Dakar yesterday afternoon after a few hours' working visit to Cape Verde. This meeting between our two heads of state enabled them to discuss bilateral issues. President Abdou Diouf disclosed that the Cape Verde-Senegal joint commission will meet at the level of foreign ministers next month.

[Begin Diouf recording] President Pereira and I discussed bilateral issues. Obviously we also talked about problems of the subregion, and issues concerning the West African region on the eve of the ECOWAS meeting. We talked about African issues, problems facing the OAU, and we reviewed the problems in Chad, Western Sahara and southern Africa as well as major world issues and problems of other non-African regions such as the Iran-Iraq war, the situation in Lebanon, and the situation in the Middle East. As usual, we discussed these issues in a serene and frank manner. This does not mean that we did not find a common ground; I can say that we held identical views on the issues that we brought up.

We discussed at length the issues of drought, because you know that presently this is the major concern of the heads of state of the Sahelian countries. In this regard, we agreed on the implementation of a Senegalese project which consists of convening the ministers in charge of environmental protection, desert encroachment and drought control to a meeting in Dakar in a few weeks or months to examine this serious issue, and to effect the great mobilization of which I have often spoken. This should not only be a national mobilization to check desert encroachment, but an African or even international mobilization. At this meeting on drought control, we intend to invite, in addition to the member states of the Permanent Intersate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel, also countries of ECOWAS and north Africa, particularly Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and Sudan.

That is all. My visit was fruitful and I am happy with this trip to Cape Verde. I invited President Pereira to visit Senegal so that we could continue our discussions. [end recording]

UPPER VOLTA

Egyptian Foreign Minister Arrives for 3-Day Visit
AB180752 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister Butrus Ghali arrived in Ouagadougou early yesterday evening. Mr Ghali, who will be in Ouagadougou for 3 days, will hold working sessions with his Upper Voltan counterpart, Comrade Arba Diallo. Today he will be received by the president of the republic. Questioned by the press, Mr Ghali said that he was the bearer of a message from the Egyptian president to Comrade Sankara. Upon leaving our country, Butrus Ghali will visit Ghana and Nigeria. Egypt's diplomatic offensive is designed to strengthen the bilateral relations between Egypt and other African countries, Mr Ghali stated.

ANGOLA

President dos Santos Leaves on 4-Day Visit to Cuba

MB161947 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, left Luanda this afternoon for Havana on a friendly, working visit to Cuba. He is traveling on a special airplane. The presidential airplane left the 4 February International Airport at about 1800 and was expected to make a technical stopover at the Amilcar Cabral Airport in Sal Island, Cape Verde.

The chairman of the party and president of the republic heads an important party and government delegation which includes, among other officials, Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, member of the Political Bureau and minister of defense; Domingos Evaristo Kimba, member of the Political Bureau and minister of agriculture and provincial coordination; Maria Mambo Cafe, Central Committee secretary for economic and social affairs; Lieutenant Andre Pitra Petroff, Central Committee secretary for production; and Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, Central Committee secretary for external relations.

This visit will last 4 days and is made at the invitation of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee.

Meeting With Castro Scheduled

MB181257 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, today entered the second day of his visit to the Republic of Cuba, where he has been at the invitation of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee. The Angolan head of state will remain in Cuba until 0800 tomorrow and is scheduled to meet Commander Fidel Castro, Cuban president, and tour the Youth Island where hundreds of Angolan youngsters are studying.

According to *PRENSA LATINA*, the Angolan presidential delegation will also meet various ministers of the Cuban Government (?to discuss) matters related to bilateral cooperation with that friendly government. [passage indistinct]

UNITA Reportedly Kills Civilian in Huila

MB160640 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Text] The criminal and destructive nature of UNITA has come to light once again in a puppet attack on two civilian vehicles used in the transportation of goods. This criminal action was committed in the Cacula region, Huila, and resulted in the death of one of the passengers and the wounding of four others. The UNITA criminals then plundered the goods and burned the two trucks. With this action the puppet gangs have once more deprived the residents of much needed goods, besides destroying two transport vehicles and killing one person.

It is worth recalling that a few days ago Moxico residents identified a toxic product which the UNITA criminals had offered the peasants as cooking fat. Four peasants died and others were seriously ill after eating the product.

BOTSWANA

President Masire: Mozambique 'Obliged To Sign' Pact

AB161420 Paris AFP in French 0923 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Kasane (Botswana), 16 Mar (AFP) — Mozambique has been obliged to sign the Nkomati pact, Botswanan President Quett Masire declared during a press conference held last night in Kasane in the north of Botswana, according to the SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS AGENCY (SAPA). "I think South Africa intimidated all her neighbours to make them sign such agreements and that it is fear that makes us accept them," the president affirmed.

The Botswanan head of state said that the non-aggression pact could bring stability and progress to southern Africa, provided it does not impede the action of those fighting for equal opportunities and a share of power in South Africa, SAPA added. Mr Masire said that he was willing to meet South African Prime Minister Pieter Willem Botha "if he was sure that through this discussion he could convince him to talk to Nelson Mandela," the leader of the African National Congress (ANC, an anti-apartheid movement) sentenced to life imprisonment in 1964.

LESOTHO

Spokesman Denies Country Planning Treaty With RSA

MB170858 Maseru Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] A spokesman for the Government of Lesotho described as wild speculation a report in the Johannesburg newspaper *THE STAR* of Thursday, 15 March 1984, that a nonaggression treaty between South Africa and Lesotho was on the negotiating table. The spokesman further denied that Lesotho was among the countries that were next in line for the signing of a treaty similar to the one signed between South Africa and Mozambique. The spokesman said that it was this kind of speculation by overzealous South African officials and newspapermen that tended to cloud issues. He added that Lesotho had clearly stated that she was not considering a nonaggression pact with South Africa, and no negotiations whatsoever were taking place between South Africa and Lesotho on this question.

The prime minister of Lesotho, Dr Jonathan, had made a policy pronouncement on this question and there will be no deviation from the position he had stated clearly: That the problems of southern Africa would not be solved by pacts of this nature, but by the dismantling of the policy of white supremacy in the region.

MADAGASCAR

ANC Representative Views Anti-Discrimination Rally

MB171030 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] The ANC is organizing demonstrations in Madagascar within the framework of the 21 March celebration by the World Movement for Defense Against Racial Discrimination. This morning we met with Mr (Silverside Mohale), the first ANC representative in Madagascar. He first briefed us on the main objectives of the ANC.

[Begin (Mohale) recording in English fading into French translation] What we have tried to convey to the world is the need for, first, a politicization of the masses, and then the taking up of arms against the enemy, embodied in the racist regime of South Africa. We need more arms and more military hardware to overcome the enemy, who has tried every possible means to sweep away with nationalist manifestations. Thus we have no option but to crush the enemy by other means, such as sabotage. [end recording]

With regard to the 21 March celebration, Mr (Mohale) declared that 21 March is the World Day for the Struggle Against Racial Discrimination, as declared and decided upon by the international community. The ANC actively participates in the commemoration of this date and demands the liberation of all political prisoners in South Africa, including Nelson Mandela, with the intention of intensifying the struggle, said Mr (Mohale). Finally we asked about the ANC's position with regard to the signing of the nonaggression pact between Mozambique and South Africa.

[Begin recording in English fading into French] We shall never recognize the racist regime of Pretoria, in (Majunga) or anywhere else. We have no alternative but to intensify our struggle, a struggle whose roots are planted in South Africa and nowhere else. The struggle continues, unabated. [end recording]

MALAWI

Transport Minister Leaves for Talks in Maputo

MB160655 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Text] The minister of transport and Communications, Edward Bwanali, has gone to Maputo, Mozambique, for an official visit. Speaking to the MALAWI NEWS AGENCY in Blantyre today, Mr Bwanali, who is heading a 3-man delegation, said apart from visiting Mozambique ports, they will discuss certain issues with Mozambique officials, especially in the field of (?rails).

He said there is a big traffic bottleneck involving Malawi's import and export trade that has affected Malawi's foreign exchange. Malawi depends on Mozambique ports for her external trade.

MOZAMBIQUE

Foreign Minister Chissano on Accord with South Africa

PM151730 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 7 Mar 84 p 8

[Interview with Foreign Minister Joachim Chissano by Tayeb Belghiche — date and place not given]

[Text] Question: Many changes have taken place in southern Africa. Mozambique is involved in them. Minister, can you explain to us the agreement reached between your country and South Africa?

Joachim Chissano: The agreement reached between Mozambique and South Africa is a result of the efforts which our country has always made to create the right conditions for peace and stability and to consolidate the independence of Mozambique and of the other southern African countries.

I do not think there is any need to say how committed Mozambique is to the principle of freedom for peoples and the solidarity it shows with peoples struggling in the region. Our national independence had positive consequences on Zimbabwe's struggle and the strengthening of the resistance in South Africa against apartheid and for Namibia's independence.

The peace agreement which we are drawing up with South Africa — it is a nonaggression agreement — aims to end the use of force in an attempt to solve conflicts between states, which must not be used as a base for subversion. We regard it as a very important agreement in keeping with the line of conduct which our party has always tried to uphold. We constantly reiterate that we took up arms and struggled with the ultimate aim of creating favorable conditions for establishing a climate of peace. Nonetheless, we think that the South African people's struggle and the ANC's fight are a just struggle which we support.

However, the ANC has no need to establish itself in Mozambique for its legitimate struggle against the apartheid regime. The nature of that struggle is different from the one which we waged against Portuguese colonialism or when Zimbabwe used our country as a base for its fight against Ian Smith's racist regime.

As you know, South Africa is using the tactics of constant aggression and destabilization against the countries of the region. It is training, leading, and financing armed bandits attacking our country. With the agreement which we have negotiated with Pretoria we hope that the South African Government will put an end to its subversion against our country and dismantle the bases it is maintaining on its own territory, which those bandits use as a base.

We, for our part, will not allow our country to be the starting point for attacks against South Africa. The struggle against apartheid within South Africa is a South African affair which we support politically and diplomatically in the normal way.

Question: Does this agreement make provision for ending South African support for the counterrevolutionaries in Mozambique?

Joachim Chissano: Yes. The agreement makes provision for ending all acts of aggression and violence by South Africa and ending Pretoria's support for the bandits. There is no doubt that the attacks by those bandits will not stop immediately, because South Africa has infiltrated a large number of the armed bandits into our territory and we are aware that the struggle against those elements will not end in the next few days. However, we think that it is in South Africa's interest to honor the terms of the agreement and that it will stop giving logistical aid to the bandits, just as we, for our part, will honor the terms of the agreement.

Question: Minister, what do you think prompted South Africa to change its policy, agreeing to end the policy of aggression and to sign a security agreement with your country?

Joachim Chissano: South Africa is Mozambique's neighbor and this geographical position seems to force it to live in harmony with all its neighbors. You do not choose your neighbors. There is no doubt that Pretoria would have liked to cooperate with a Mozambique governed by a docile regime which would not call into question the status quo, in other words the apartheid regime and the whole white supremacy in the region.

South Africa had made many attempts to hamper and destroy our socialist system and to deflect our revolution from its course. That effort has cost South Africa and its allies dearly, and South Africa itself is having to contend with the struggles being waged within it and in Namibia. At the same time as those internal difficulties, it is necessary to take account of the whole international situation and of world opinion, which are against apartheid. Because of all that South Africa has been forced to realize that it has to change its methods and agree to talk and negotiate with us with the aim of creating the right conditions for good-neighborly relations and the establishment of a minimum platform for cooperation and collaboration, although we remain firmly opposed to the apartheid system.

Question: Following this agreement reached between Pretoria and Mozambique, will there be an impact on southern Africa as a whole, particularly within South Africa?

Joaquim Chissano: We believe that this agreement could have a very major impact in mobilizing the South African public to see exactly where justice lies. We have shown that the African peoples — especially the peoples of this region — are devoted to peace and that the sole obstacle to such a peace is apartheid. The only obstacle to understanding between the areas of different races in southern Africa is apartheid. So this agreement is already an expression of good faith on the part of our country and our people, to show black and white South Africans that what we want and what South Africa's ANC really wants is peace, harmony between people and races — particularly because following this agreement we will have more direct and more frequent contacts with the South Africans. We will be working with them in various fields. This will actually dispel the fear that the regime previously had of the annihilation of the white race in South Africa. With this agreement we are also saying that the struggle is not against the whites in South Africa but for democracy and equality, that even the whites in South Africa should feel free in their own country on an equal footing with the black majority. We hope that in the short or medium term this agreement will begin to enable those who have found it difficult to see reason to do so.

Question: Minister, what will your future relations with the ANC be following the conclusion of this agreement?

Joaquim Chissano: The ANC is a movement that we greatly respect, because no liberation movement in Africa can ignore the ANC's inspiration. What I mean is that it was the first movement created to combat injustice in Africa, and we are, so to speak, a manifestation of that inspiration. We are neighbors of South Africa. I have told you that we are bound by geography and shared interests to South Africa. This is particularly true with regard to the bond between the two peoples. So the Frelimo struggle and the ANC struggle are the same struggle. There is no reason to worry about our future relations with the ANC. These relations are good. We are friends and will continue to discuss the future of our region with frankness and great mutual trust, and, as I have said, we will continue to support the ANC from the diplomatic, political, and moral viewpoints and we will do everything necessary to help the ANC attain its objectives. The only thing that we cannot do is give them the military means to wage an armed struggle against the apartheid regime. All forms of struggle that are compatible with the agreement that we are going to sign with South Africa will be conceded to the ANC.

Further Reports on Nkomati Accord Signing Ceremony

Malawi Delegation in Attendence

MB170817 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Text] The envoy of President Kamuzu Banda of Malawi arrived this afternoon in Maputo to attend the signing of the ceremony of the nonaggression and good neighborliness accord between the People's Republic of Mozambique and South Africa. Speaking to Radio Mozambique on his arrival, Malawian envoy Edward Bwanali, minister of transport and communications, stated that the signing of the accord is a historic event for southern Africa and the world. We quote: Southern Africa needs tremendous development for the benefit of the peoples in the area. Such a development will only be possible in a climate of peace. For this reason, my government wants to salute the Mozambican people for this victory, which not only benefits this country but the whole of southern Africa as well, unquote.

Moreover, Minister Bwanali has come to Mozambique at the invitation of Alcantara Santos, minister of ports, railroads and shipping of our country. In the context of this visit, the Malawian delegation will tour Nacala, Beira, and Quelimane harbors. The delegation will study new ways for the greater utilization of Mozambique ports with regard to the flow of Malawian imports and exports.

On his visit to Mozambique, Minister Bwanali is accompanied by (W.K. Solenoyo), assistant secretary to his ministry; (H.W. Chipeta), transport official in the Malawian Ministry of Transport and Communications; and (J. Mulanje), deputy director of Malawi railways. At the airport, this important Malawian

delegation was received by Alcantara Santos, Mozambique's minister of ports, railways, and shipping.

Machel Meets Swazi Leader

MB161744 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] The Mozambique head of state has already returned to the Mozambique capital. Before leaving the town of Ressano Garcia, Samora Machel spoke to the local residents who had gathered to greet him. He told them that we must be increasingly vigilant because we have not won yet. On the occasion, the Mozambique head of state exchanged views with Swaziland's prime minister.

Party, State Leaders Meet

MB160811 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] A joint session of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau, the People's Assembly Permanent Commission, and the Council of Ministers was held yesterday under the chairmanship of President Samora Machel. The session was also attended by members of the Central Committee and other senior party, state, and Armed Forces cadres.

At the meeting the participants reviewed the process which led to the establishment of the nonaggression pact which is going to be signed today. They also discussed some of the aspects of the ceremony which will take place today.

Successes Against 'Armed Bandits' in Machua Depicted

MB190552 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0605 GMT 18 Mar 84

[From the "Armed Forces Voice of Combat" program]

[Text] Our armed forces continued carrying out military operations to annihilate the armed bandits in various areas of our country last week. Thus, reports reaching us say our forces have destroyed some enemy bases in the regions of Machua and Cufucuane. They also destroyed small groups of bandits. The reports say further that fighting between armed bandits and our patrols has increased as a result of the unstable situation facing the bandits.

MNR Radio Calls on Frelimo Soldiers To Switch Sides

MB170705 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mozambique National Resistance in Portuguese 0400 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Misled brother in the Frelimo army: Your master, Gorilla Machel, has lost. Samora has been defeated. He has surrendered. Why are you fighting? Why are you still fighting? Do you want to die? You are still very young. Where is your family? With whom did your girlfriend sleep last night? This kind of life you are leading makes no sense, brother. It promises no future. We pity you. Come over to join us. We are the people. We are of the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo]. We are Renamo. With us you will feel at home. Come over. You will be welcome.

Misled brother who is still in Frelimo, these are the final days of Samora Machel. Frelimo has just surrendered to South Africa as the result of the inability of the government of Samora Machel to confront the critical situation throughout the country. The mismanagement of the economy, famine caused by the exploitation of the people, and repression have led all the people to rise up in arms against the criminal communist system in Maputo. These facts and the people's just struggle are the main factors which have now led criminal Frelimo to go to ask for more help from its South African friends.

Samora Moises Machel, it is very late for you. You, murderous Machel, you know very well that you are not going to escape the fate we have planned for you. You only want to win time to transfer funds to your coffers in Portugal and Switzerland. You, Machel, you know that Maputo will be ours. It will be ours. Do you understand? It will be of the people. Today we are about 20 km from the capital, midway between Moma and Maputo. Very shortly our shots [tiros] will be heard ringing in your palace. The people will no longer let you continue to exploit and kill them.

Against criminals and bandits like Machel and his gang, justice is being prepared.

To all the brothers who are still misled and serving the Machel regime's army, this is our last warning. This is the hour, brother. This is the hour to escape and think of a promising future. Do not die for Samora. Do not die for a rabid and murderous dog who will be gunned down shortly. Run away from death, misled brothers still in the People's Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique.

Many of your colleagues have already come over to join us. They have come to join the people. Why do you still wait? Your barracks is going to be swept away and destroyed. Food is not being sent to where you are. Your products are being stolen. Do you understand? Do you want to lose a leg or even your life in a landmine explosion?

Think of your family, dear misled brother. Think of your girlfriend. Why are you going to die? Why are you going to leave those people behind? Do not be a fool, brother. Open your eyes. You are on the wrong side. You have no future. The only thing awaiting you is death. Come over. Come over to join us. We are the victory. We are the people. We are prosperity and the future. We are the new country that we all want. Yes, we know that even you yourself want a new Mozambique — a truly independent, free, prosperous Mozambique without famine and injustice. Come over, brother. We are waiting for you.

NAMIBIA

Multiparty Conference Welcomes Signing of Accord

MB161827 Windhoek Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1700 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] The Multiparty Conference on South-West Africa's constitutional future has welcomed the signing of the Nkomati Accord. A spokesman for the conference, Dr Lukas de Vries, said it will definitely contribute towards political stability in southern Africa. In turn, this will also have a positive effect on political development in South-West Africa.

Conference Session Postponed

MB171217 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] The session of the Multiparty Conference [MPC] of South-West Africa which was to have started in Windhoek tomorrow has been postponed for an indefinite period. The step was taken in order to give the Political Committee of the MPC an opportunity to set up guidelines whereby the conference could achieve greater participation in the region's management, as well in the negotiation process towards a settlement in South-West Africa. The government had asked the conference last month to present proposals on the future of South-West Africa to it by the end of this week. A progress report was handed to the government and the administrator general, Dr Willie van Niekerk, earlier this week in which the conference said, among other things, that it accepted the challenge to lead South-West Africa to independence through negotiations with all involved parties.

Bessinger Reports Toivo Appointed to SWAPO Politburo

MB171254 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1028 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Text] Windhoek, March 17, SAPA — The recently released founder of SWAPO, Mr Herman Toivo ja Toivo, has been appointed to the party's supreme organ, the Politburo, a party spokesman said in Windhoek today. The secretary for foreign affairs, Mr Nico Bessinger, said his party had appointed Mr ja Toivo to the powerful Politburo and that his exact duties would be announced soon. Asked whether Mr ja Toivo intended returning to the territory, Mr Bessinger said the SWAPO founder would do so before the expiry of his 30-day travel document issued to him earlier this month. He said Mr ja Toivo had accepted invitations by frontline leaders to visit their countries. He did not say which countries.

Mr ja Toivo's Lusaka visit came about after the SWAPO leader, Mr Sam Nujoma, expressed a wish to meet him "as soon as possible" after he was released when he had served 18 years of a 20-year prison term for offences under South Africa's terrorism act. He was held on Robben Island. Mr ja Toivo was accompanied to Lusaka by the deputy president of SWAPO, Mr Hendrik Witbooi, the deputy national chairman, Mr Dan Tjongarero, Mr Bessinger, and a member of the internal Politburo, Mr Crispin Matango, all of whom have returned.

SOUTH AFRICA

Foreign Minister Comments on Botha-Machel Meeting

MB161740 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] In an interview after the formal signing of the Nkomati accord, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, was asked why the discussions between the two leaders in the white train had taken longer than anticipated. Mr Botha replied that it had not merely been a matter of two leaders meeting for the first time, but rather of two leaders meeting who had important matters to discuss. He said the meeting had been convivial and had taken place in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

He added that the day was an important one in the history of southern Africa. In a sense, it marked the end of colonialism, insofar as South Africa had taken its rightful place as an African state.

'Personal Accord' Seen Between Botha, Machel

MB161430 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1322 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Nkomati, March 16, SAPA — The leaders of Mozambique and South Africa struck up an instant personal accord when they met for the first time today. It was so strong that Mr P.W. Botha and President Samora Machel kept thousands of important guests waiting in the hot, humid lowveld while they talked in their white railway coach parked at a siding in the bush. Soldiers in the guards of honor from both countries were collapsing in the blazing sun as they waited for the two leaders to emerge for the official signing of the Nkomati Accord. On the grandstands overlooking the open space where the two leaders were to meet, the important guests sat with sweat streaming down them as the minutes ticked by.

Mr Botha and President Machel eventually arrived more than half-an-hour late. The delay was the result of "two men meeting each other for the first time and finding they had much in common." This was the explanation given by a source close to President Machel of Mozambique when asked why the programme had dropped 30 minutes behind schedule.

The South African Government was not prepared to comment but when told of the Mozambican explanation, seemed "satisfied" with the reason given.

The Mozambican source said that the recent meeting between Mr Pik Botha, Mr Louis le Grange and General Magnus Malan and President Machel had also gone way over the expected time, because of common ground found between them.

He said the same had happened today. "The two leaders met and found that they were both men who had much to say to each other — that is why they spoke longer than they thought. We are happy because while we talk there is hope. I think the South Africans feel the same."

Herstigte Leader Marais Criticizes Nkomati Accord

MB190825 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 19 Mar 84

[Text] A major rift has developed between the Herstigte Nasionale Party [HNP] and the Conservative Party [CP] over Friday's Nkomati accord. HNP leader Jaap Marais expressed shock that the CP leader, Andries Treurnicht, attended the signing. Marais says this was a blatant ignoring of the views of his party. He says the CP does not seem to understand the seriousness of the accord, and says by attending the signing of the pact the CP was supporting the foreign policy of the National Party.

Marais says the two parties would have to meet to discuss any possibility of future cooperation. Commenting on the accord itself, Marais says it holds no advantages for South Africa, and favors Mozambique.

Mozambique Ready To Provide Cahora Bassa Security

MB160722 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] The Mozambique minister of mineral and energy affairs, Mr Antonio Branco, says if the talks between South Africa, Mozambique, and Portugal on Cahora Bassa are successful and lead to a new agreement, then Mozambique will be responsible for the security of the project. Mr Branco was speaking in a South African Broadcasting Corporation television program. He was the leader of the Mozambique delegation at the talks on the future of the Cahora Bassa scheme held in Cape Town this week. The chief South African negotiator at the talks and deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr Louis Nel, said on the program that Cahora Bassa was contributing to the process of bringing cooperation, peace, and stability to southern Africa.

Pik Botha Warns Hart on Sanctions Against RSA

MB161957 Mbabane Television Service in Siswati 1630 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Pik Botha, the South African minister of foreign affairs, yesterday evening warned Mr Gary Hart, a candidate for the U.S. President, about Hart's intended economic boycott of South Africa. Mr Hart, who is a Democratic Party senator, said that if he won the presidential elections, he would effectively block trade between South Africa and the United States.

Talking to a group of people in Myerton yesterday, Mr Botha said that if Mr Hart intended to frighten South Africa into forced internal political changes concerning blacks in South Africa, the effect of his stance would be to solidify the Boers into a very strong, unified, cohesive unit, stronger than has been seen so far. Mr Botha said if Mr Hart carried out his intentions, then he had better be in a position to give these thousands of black workers employment. For if America withdrew her economic interests in South Africa, black peoples' employment prospects would be hurt. He said that Mr Hart would then have to accomodate workers from Mozambique, Lesotho, Swaziland, Botswana, and other African Countries by giving them employment in America.

Mr Botha said that the Boers do not mistreat blacks in employment, and as a matter of fact South Africa does not import slaves like the United States used to do in the past. He concluded, finally, that he and his Boer compatriots have no guilty feelings about handling black people the way they are currently doing.

ANC Spokesman Denies Bases in Mozambique

EA182125 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 17 Mar 84

[Excerpt][Announcer] Compatriots. On Friday the Mozambican Government and the fascist Pretoria regime signed the much-talked-about so-called nonaggression pact, which is now known as the Nkomati accord.

No doubt for us, the oppressed people of South Africa, we are aware that this is yet another diabolical maneuver by the fascist oppressor, desperately trying to crush our armed liberation struggle led by our vanguard movement, the ANC.

As you should have heard, the main aim of this nonaggression pact is said to stop alleged ANC operations into South Africa that are supposed to be planned in the imaginary bases in the Peoples Republic of Mozambique. The African National Congress for its part has ever since maintained that it has no bases in the territory of Mozambique, as many operations by Umkhonto we Sizwe freedom fighters deep inside South African territory have proved. They have proved that Umkhonto we Sizwe guerrillas are based within the oppressed people.

This so-called nonaggression pact, as we all know, comes after number of destabilization activities have been carried out against the territory of Mozambique by the fascist Pretoria regime. The attacks against Mozambique and Lesotho and other neighboring states are carried out under the pretext that the so-called bases of the ANC were being attacked.

In this interview with Comrade Tavo Mbeki, director of the Information Department of the ANC, we started by asking him whether tha ANC does have any bases at all in the People's Republic of Mozambique?

[Begin Tavo Mbeki recording] The ANC has built no military bases in Mozambique, has never asked the Mozambicans to give military bases. It does not need military bases; indeed, we need [words indistinct] we need a strong military presence within South Africa.

You even look at it [word indistinct] from a so-called straightforward position. This operation, insofar as [word indistinct] took place in what is obviously a sensitive military area of Pretoria. With the air force there, with military intelligence there, with the army and (?other) personnel there — clearly a military area.

Now there is no way that anybody, it doesn't matter how clever they are, could have carried out such an operation from Maputo. It could only be done from Pretoria. You have got to go and [word indistinct] you have got to go and conduct reconnaissance, you have got to determine the time when you attack, you have got to

determine how you are going to be able to leave this area and so on. You cannot try [words indistinct].

Lastly you can't, you cannot detonate a bomb from Maputo. It has got to be from Pretoria. But the enemy is confronted, of course, with the problem that it has to (?present) itself to its own supporters and also it naturally presents itself [words indistinct], presents itself as powerful as any god, it is all-seeing, it is all-pervasive, it has infiltrated the ANC, and so on. Start with the problem of how then does it explain an operation which takes place in Pretoria?

(?As is well-known), in the very midst of what (?ought to be) highly sensitive areas, and that it has got to find an excuse, it has got to find an explanation which hopefully will satisfy its supporters. Therefore it says: Let us go to (?Maputo).

The ANC had said earlier after this attack in Maputo that in the areas that were attacked the ANC had got a warehouse, a storage which contains food, which contains medicine. Because naturally people are fleeing South Africa because of oppression, refugees are coming into Mozambique and the refugees are fleeing — you don't pack a nice suitcase and put on nice shoes and so on. So there are the people who are going to need these supplies.

As we will have seen, even the British [word indistinct] in Maputo who went and saw this area, visited all the places attacked, came out (?directly) and said there is nothing, absolutely nothing, military about any of places attacked, there is no ANC movement there, and now we are talking about a British ambassador not as spokesmen of the ANC.

But I am saying that [words indistinct] has to justify to its population what is happening to the [words indistinct]. It has been saying that it has got the situation under control, it is on the top of situation. In our country, we have got a country which has got 80 percent of the population against apartheid. We have got a population with 80 percent more or less involved in one way or another in opposition to this regime. There is no way in which [words indistinct] the entire white population [words indistinct].

You have got a situation now when the regime carries out clearly a provocation aimed at justifying an attack against Lesotho. They pretend to receive a telephone call from somebody who claims to be ANC and SWAPO that the ANC was responsible for the bomb (?in Bloemfontein) [words indistinct] to justify an attack against Lesotho, to justify an attack against South African refugees who are in Lesotho. Again the enemy is trying to [word indistinct]. It cannot. It cannot succeed to suppress the movement for national liberation within the country. As we (?swore) to do that and we shall continue to do so. [end recording]

Terrorist Given 20 Years for Botha Bombing Attempt

MB160756 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Text] The terrorist who was found with a bomb in his possession near the Pietermaritzburg City Hall where the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, was addressing a referendum meeting last October has been sentenced to an effective 20 years imprisonment. Mr Justice Jacobs said that he had decided against the death sentence for Thembinkosi Paulson Ngcobo as there had been mitigating circumstances, such as the accused's plea of guilty and the assistance he had given the police.

SWAZILAND

Officials Hail RSA-Mozambique Nonaggression Pact

MB170925 Mbabane THE SWAZI NEWS in English 17 Mar 84 p 1,3

[Text] Prime Minister, Prince Bhekimpi, has hailed the non-aggression treaty between South Africa and Mozambique as a triumph for peace and the people of Southern Africa.

Speaking in an interview with *THE SWAZI NEWS* shortly after the signing of the treaty in Komatipoort, Prince Bhekimpi said the signing of the agreement was also an achievement for President Machel, Prime Minister P.W. Botha and the late King Sobhuza II, who had for some time taken the initiative to get the two leaders to come to the negotiation table to solve their differences.

Prince Bhekimpi said he gave President Machel full moral support for the bold move he took despite the fact that many African countries disagreed with him. "He acted in the interest of the people of Mozambique. It was a bold and wise move which will benefit Mozambique's citizens," he said. "It takes a brave man to make such bold decisions in the face of so much pressure from people who are talking from platforms far away from the realities of the region.

"We expect there will be more investment in Mozambique; jobs will be created for Mozambican nationals and they will get food. They will have no more sleepless nights with impending attacks all the time. They have suffered enough from the ravages of war over the years," he said.

"We are grateful to God and to us this is an unforgettable day. It's a dream come true for our late King and ourselves," he said.

The minister of foreign affairs, Mr R.V. Dlamini, said: "It is a great day, a milestone towards peaceful co-existence." "This has been a long wish of the King who had been praying that one day President Machel and Mr Botha should reach an agreement. The seed planted some years back is now bearing fruit." "We believe that ideological differences should not stand in the way for peaceful co-existence among nations."

Prince Bhekimpi, who attended the ceremony as a guest of President Machel, drove to Maputo on Thursday and returned with his delegation to his home in Enkaba yesterday.

Other Cabinet ministers, Army and police top brass and members of Parliament attended the ceremony.

ZAMBIA

Nujoma Speech in Lusaka on Namibian Independence

MB160650 Harare Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Speech by SWAPO President Sam Nujoma at the UN Institute for Namibia graduation ceremony in Lusaka on 10 March — read by announcer]

[Text] Comrade Chairman, we are here today to witness the fifth graduation ceremony of the UN Institute for Namibia. On behalf of SWAPO in particular and the Namibian masses in general, I should like to state how proud we are of this achievement and congratulate the institute on a job well done. Comrade Chairman, as you are aware, due to the despicable system of apartheid that has been imposed on our people and the bad education system that exists in Namibia, the Namibian people have been denied the fundamentals of education at every level. It is therefore no mean achievement that today we are here to see 92 cadres graduating in development studies and management and 44 in secretarial studies, which to date brings the total number of students graduating from the institute to 451. This result is a product of SWAPO's own liberation effort in its 25 years of existence, as compared to the negligible product of almost a century of illegal occupation of Namibia by the racist South African regime. However, in spite of our own efforts, this achievement would not have been possible without the support and commitment of the president of the Republic of Zambia, that great freedom fighter of Africa, Comrade Dr Kenneth David Kaunda, the party UNIP [United National Independence Party], its government, and the people of Zambia. I should therefore once again like to take this opportunity to thank you, Your Excellency Comrade Kaunda, the party UNIP, and the government and people of Zambia for the support that you continue to give to the Namibian people under the banner of SWAPO in our quest for freedom and genuine independence.

Comrade Chairman, the fifth graduation ceremony of the UN Institute for Namibia is taking place at a time when the situation in Namibia has reach a critical stage. In the first instance, due to the heroic resistance and supreme sacrifices which the Namibia people have made for the last 2 decades, the struggle has reached a stage where the apartheid South African regime has been forced to publicly admit that the price of its illegal occupation of Namibia has far outweighed the benefits of the occupation.

On 31 January 1984, the prime minister of South Africa, P.W. Botha, told the South African Parliament that between 1983 and March 1984, South Africa would have spent 1.7 billion South African rand in a desperate effort to maintain Pretoria's occupation of Namibia. Botha went on to state that many young South Africans have also lost their lives in the colonial war to retain South Africa's occupation of Namibia. He further stated that South Africa could no longer bear the escalating costs in men and materiel. South Africa also came to recognize that its illegal occupation of Namibia stands rejected by the broad masses of the Namibian people and the international community. Furthermore, Botha has admitted that because of South Africa's continued occupation of Namibia against the active opposition of the Namibian people and the demands of the international community, the threat of economic sanctions has begun to loom large over South Africa. In the light of this, Botha also stated that South Africa was now willing to reach an agreement leading to the solution of the Namibian problem.

However, Comrade Chairman, [words indistinct], South Africa has thus far refused to proceed with the implementation of the UN plan for free and fair elections leading to the independence of Namibia. For example, Pretoria has not shown the political will to agree to talks directly with SWAPO about the vital question of a cease-fire and the immediate implementation of a UN plan for the independence of Namibia, which in our view is the only acceptable basis for bringing about a just and lasting solution to the Namibian problem. Instead of proceeding immediately with the signing of a cease-fire between SWAPO and South Africa, Pretoria has tried to camouflage its unwillingness to withdraw from Namibia behind its proposed troop withdrawal from the People's Republic of Angola. It is very clear to us that South Africa is deliberately trying to confuse two entirely separate issues. In the first instance, there is the issue of South Africa's announced troop withdrawal from the People's Republic of Angola. South Africa's aggressive military presence in Angola is clearly in violation of Angola's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence. The international community and SWAPO have been demanding the withdrawal of the South African troops from Angola for the last 2 years. We therefore earnestly desire that Angola be relieved of the brutal and destructive military presence of South Africa from some parts of Angola's territory. However, it must be recognised that South Africa's withdrawal from Angola does not in itself constitute a solution to the Namibian problem, and therefore any attempt to confuse the South African troop withdrawal from Angola with a solution to the Namibian conflicts falls short of addressing itself to the complex problem of Namibia. Unless South Africa agrees to discuss and sign a cease-fire with the other party to the armed conflict in Namibia, which is SWAPO, this remains the fundamental issue in securing the genuine independence of Namibia.

Comrade Chairman, it is absolutely imperative that I seize this opportunity to refute the malicious and calculated propaganda campaign of South Africa, which states that SWAPO is deliberately and actually working to disrupt the process of the withdrawal of South African troops from Angola. In recent weeks, South Africa has been feeding the world media with falsification and distortion that SWAPO is amassing troops into Namibia across the area which is supposedly being vacated by South Africa. Unfortunately, the world press is wittingly or unwittingly giving extensive coverage to these outrageous charges. South Africa's motive in leveling these charges is to drive a wedge between SWAPO and its frontline allies, in particular the People's Republic of Angola.

However, it is important to note that in pursuing these objectives, South Africa has various armed elements in and around the area of troop withdrawal, such as mercenaries; the 32d Battalion, comprised of remnants of UNITA-FNLA [Angolan National Liberation Front] bandits; former Portugese security agents; Koevoet, a murder squad similar to the Sellous Scots in southern

Rhodesia; the so-called South-West Africa Territorial Force, comprised of Nambians forcibly recruited; and imposters dressed in the uniforms of PLAN [People's Liberation Army of Namibia] combatants. These elements are attached to the South African Defense Force, and they have consistently been used to impersonate SWAPO combatants in order to justify the charges made against SWAPO and prolong the proposed withdrawal of South African troops from Angola, thereby providing a cover for South Africa perpetuation of Namibia's illegal occupation. Another indication of South Africa's procrastination is the fact that in refusing to talk to SWAPO, racist South Africa is once again attempting to impose a new colonial settlement in Namibia by using the puppet device of the so-called Multiparty Conference to avoid a genuine settlement. The so-called Multiparty Conference is but a new version of the old bogus and discredited Turnhalle solution to the Namibian problem. The Multiparty Conference is a gathering of some misguided Namibians under the paternal control of local racist agents of Botha in Namibia who provide funds and other material facilities to this puppet circus. The participants in the so-called Multiparty Conference do not represent the genuine aspirations and interests of the oppressed Namibian people, and as such, the Multiparty Conference, like the previous attempt by South Africa to avoid a genuine solution to the Namibian problem, is doomed to failure if the masses of Namibian people will not accept it.

Comrade Chairman, allow me to restate here SWAPO's readiness to meet representatives of the South African Government to discuss the issue of a cease-fire in Namibia and to set a definite date for the implementation of the UN plan for the independence of Namibia, and thereby to bring an end to the armed conflict in our country. It was in this spirit of cooperation and desire to contribute to the search for an immediate and peaceful settlement of the Namibian conflict that SWAPO declared on 29 January 1984 its readiness to observe the terms of disengagement in Angola. SWAPO still stands by this statement. I should also like once again to reaffirm SWAPO policy that our struggle is not against whites in Namibia but against the system of colonial domination and racist oppression. Under a SWAPO Government, nobody will be denied his or her human rights, including the right of property. Such rights would be protected and safeguarded regardless of race or ethnic origins.

An independent Namibia under a SWAPO government will pursue a foreign policy of nonalignment and will enter into diplomatic and other relations with all countries that are friendly to it. Our people have advanced the struggle to its decisive stage, but the enemy remains intransigent and devious. It therefore remains the responsibility of all the Namibian patriots, in particular you who are graduating today from the UN Institute for Namibia, to remain vigilant and be ready to make further sacrifices for us to insure that Namibian achieves genuine independence in the immediate future. SWAPO is proud not only to have stood firm and led the fight for the liberation of Namibia but also to have undertaken steps to train cadres to assume the responsibility for the reconstruction of an independent Namibia. In so doing we have been honoring heroes of the Namibian independence struggle, those who have fallen and those who have been incarcerated, and we have here today in our midst Comrade Toivo ja Toivo. Comrade Toivo ja Toivo is a founding member of SWAPO who has spent the last 15 years of a 20-year jail sentence on a notorious Robben Island for having championed the cause of Namibian's independence. Here is a comrade who stood firm in defense of liberty and freedom against all odds. Let his presence here today serve as an object lesson of patriotism to all of you who are graduating. You may be called upon to make even greater sacrifices for your country.

Party Official Assures SWAPO Leaders of Support

MB160714 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Mar 84

[Text] Lusaka Province member of the Central Committee Mr Fines Bulawayo said in Lusaka that Zambia is in the forefront in the fight for the liberation of Namibia. Mr Bulawayo told SWAPO President Mr Sam Nujoma and SWAPO cofounder Mr Herman Toivo ja Toivo that the attainment of independence by the United National Independence Party was not enough until the people of Namibia were also liberated. Mr Bulawayo said this when the SWAPO leaders visited (Machinga) ward in (Matiro). In reply Mr Nujoma praised his excellency the president, Dr Kaunda, the party, and the people of Zambia for the material and diplomatic support they are rendering to his organization.

ZIMBABWE

Prime Minister Calls for End to RSA Apartheid System

MB181306 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, says independent African countries cannot enjoy their freedom unless the apartheid system is dismantled in South Africa. Officially closing the ZANU-PF Women's Congress in Harare in his capacity as party president yesterday, Comrade Mugabe urged African countries to unite and fight against the evil system. He said as Zimbabweans consolidate their hard-won independence, they should never forget the struggling people of South Africa and Namibia. Addressing himself to the ZANU-PF Women's National Executive Council which was elected at the congress, Comrade Mugabe urged the newly elected council to refrain from practicing tribalism and regionalism.

Nkomo Says Rally Broken Up by ZANU-PF Youths

MB190529 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 18 Mar 84

[Text] Zimbabwe's opposition leader Joshua Nkomo says that youth gangs disrupted a rally he had planned to hold yesterday. Nkomo says that between 80 and 100 youths from the ruling ZANU-PF party wrecked a meeting in the midlands town of Kadoma. He says the youths attacked his supporters and cut the public-address system cables with an ax. Nkomo says ZAPU party officials asked the police to use force against the youths, but, he says, they were powerless to prevent the youths from stopping the rally. Nkomo says he had planned to speak on the need for peace in the area, one of Mugabe's political strongholds.